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Photograph by Darren McDonald (Lisa).

# GARDEN PATH

On our letters page this month is one from Pamela Smyth, who writes about the combination of envy and admiration that sweeps over her as she reads each issue of *H&G*. Afterwards, however, she looks around her, realising just how much she loves her own home.

That pretty much describes the way I feel as we close the issue every month. Along the path to print we witness so much that is great – this month's fabulous array of decorative flooring options for instance (page 40), the super-clever ideas unveiled in the downsizer reno on our cover (page 16), and the beautiful stripped-back original timbers and lovely matt floorboards in Justine and Alex's home (page 96). But I'm always happy to see my home at the end of the day – especially when the eucalyptus 'Summer Red' in the courtyard is in full bloom. It's my home, with my family and all the things we love within.

BUT... this month I have to confess to a severe case of garden envy. It's not helped by the fact that Sydney's looking so lush and verdant after the rain that's been swirling about, but our content this month has brought on a yearning for a big garden to muck about in. I looked at the towering lemon-scented gums leaning in over the Victorian home featured on page 104, and was reminded of my late grandparents' large suburban block and garden. And turning the pages of our Garden Special (page 121), full of ideas from some of Australia's best horticulturists and landscape designers, I again felt my heart flip. But it was likely landscape designer Paul Bangay's caption about his flower room at Stonefields, his incredible property in rural Victoria, that was my undoing (page 216). A flower room – what a delicious thought. Not to mention the sprawling acreage to grow said flowers in!

There's nothing to be done about the physical limitations of our outdoor space. But I will be planting some bulbs under the gum, and I'm seriously contemplating sequestering an under-used corner of my mother-in-law's garden for cut flowers. Spring's looking good.

Lisa

## CONTRIBUTORS



**MARK ROPER**
***Photographer***

Mark is looking forward to cooking some of the easy entertaining recipes by chef Andrew McConnell, which he shot this month (page 139). "The recipes take it up a notch from everyday cooking, but they're still achievable." The best thing about the shoot? "I love Andrew's food, so as soon as it was shot, we ate it!"



**TONI BRIGGS**
***Stylist***

From playful to glamorous, Toni shows how transparent, metallic and mirror finishes can be incorporated into your home in the decorating feature on page 27. Her advice for first time bowerbirds? "Inject a touch of glamour with small statement pieces in metallic finishes".


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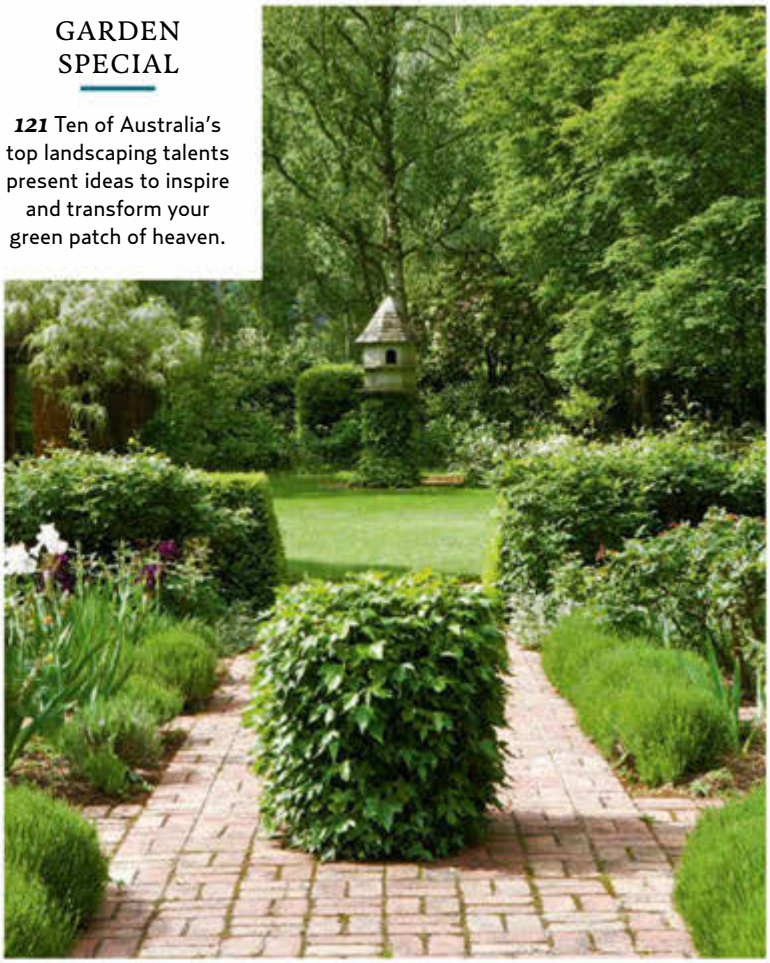
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# APRIL

RENOVATION REWARDS

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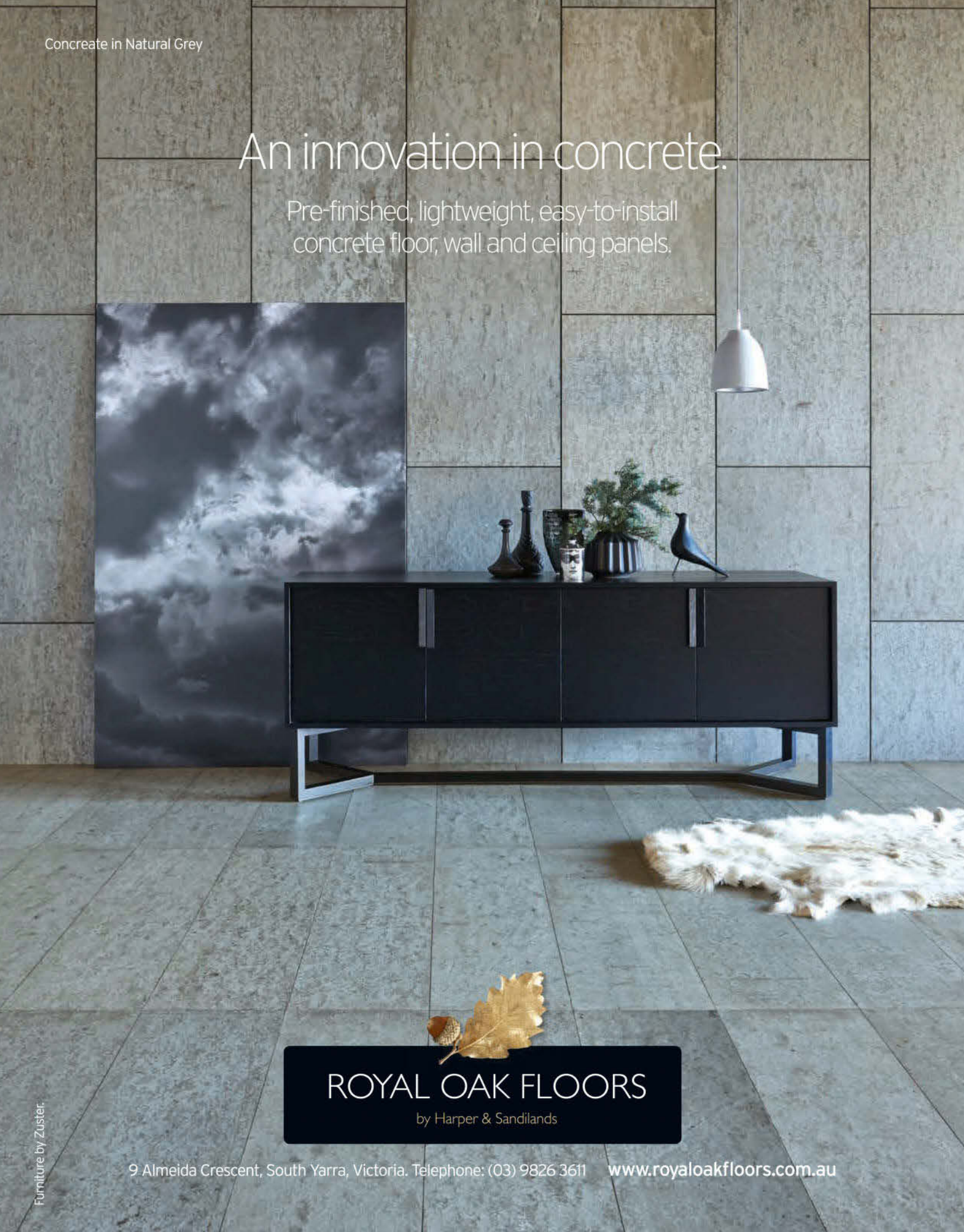
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# the palette

***Fashion designer Sonia Rykiel has been a purveyor of chic Parisian style and coloured licorice-like stripes for more than 40 years, and her collection for South Pacific Fabrics is typically vibrant and unique. Her signature pink and berry tones anchor this issue and, paired with velvety blues, set up a playful yet sophisticated entree into autumn.***





BEST BUY $4





## COLOUR CODE

*Haymes Paint Ginger Spice*

*Bristol Crushed Velvet*

*Porter's Paints Carnevale*

**INSPIRED BUYS**: Sonia Rykiel Maison **fabric collection** for Lelièvre, South Pacific Fabrics; (02) 9327 7222 or www.southpacificfabrics.com. Blown-glass **pendant light,** from about $438, Curiousa & Curiousa; curiousaand curiousa.co.uk. Horseshoe cotton **cushion,** $50, Rapee; (02) 9496 4511 or www.rapee.com.au. Arv earthenware **bowl,** $4, Ikea; (02) 8020 6641 or www.ikea.com.au. Tribute American oak **coffee table,** $1800, Zuster; (03) 9427 7188 or www.zuster.com.au.

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# A STITCH IN TIME

Inspired by treasured cross-stitch tapestries, this imaginative Melbourne renovation meets its downsizing owner's every need.

STORY **STEPHEN CRAFTI** / STYLING **NATALIE JAMES**
PHOTOGRAPHY **NICOLE ENGLAND**





When Pam Mitchell came across this single-fronted Victorian terrace in inner-eastern Melbourne, she knew she had found 'the one'. Despite its lack of natural light and – its greatest shortcoming – no connection to the outdoors, the property had some vital redeeming features. It had a backyard, albeit modest, was close to local shops, the city, and just a stone's throw from the railway station.

Pam, keen to scale down from a larger house and happy to put some work into the property, engaged architect and interior designer Fiona Dunin, director of FMD Architects, to tailor the tiny terrace to her needs.

In response to Pam's desire for a better indoor-outdoor flow, Fiona decided to keep the front two rooms and dismantle the remainder of the house. She then conceived a new, light-filled, open-plan kitchen, dining and living area to add to the home. But this wasn't to be your typical glass box; cross-stitched tapestries by Pam's mother were the starting point for a beautifully original design.

"We wanted to create a sense of the addition being 'stitched' onto the original rooms," says Fiona, who ▸

**LEFT** Pam's living area now has the connection to the garden that she craved. When the doors are left open, the sound of trickling water from the pond resonates throughout the room. A few select pieces, including a sofa, ottoman and armchair from Jardan, allow the space to 'breathe'. On the wall is a backing cloth painting from Spacecraft. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.



**'WE WANTED TO CREATE A SENSE OF THE ADDITION BEING "STITCHED" ONTO THE ORIGINAL ROOMS.'**
**FIONA DUNIN, ARCHITECT (BELOW)**

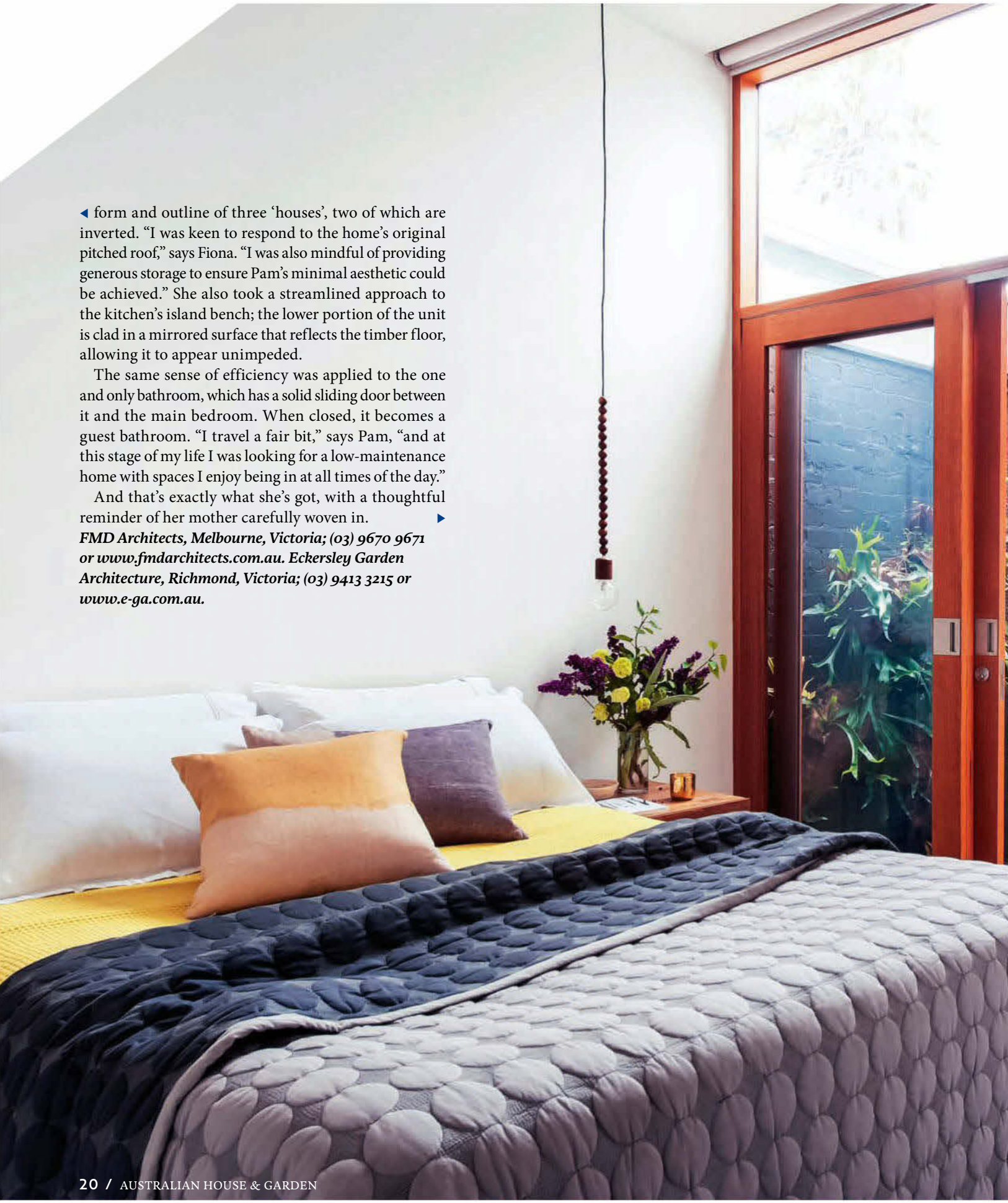
The simple palette of materials in the kitchen/dining room includes plywood, laminate, tile and mirror. Pam selected the angular Urban Chairs from FeelGood Designs to complement the ceiling beams. The table is from Jardan and the sideboard was customised by Zuster.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

◀ refers to a bobbin when describing the radiating plywood beams that feature heavily indoors and out. "There's a sense of the beams unravelling," she says.

The placement of the beams also loosely delineates the kitchen from the living area and a courtyard garden, designed by landscape architect Myles Broad of Eckersley Garden Architecture. "Having a small garden and an outdoor space was integral to the brief," says Pam. "I love being surrounded by plants. I wanted the connection to the garden to be as transparent as possible."

Before Pam bought the property she'd lived in a large five-bedroom house with an expansive garden, so the downsize required her to shed a lot of furniture. Keen to start afresh she brought with her only the treasured cross-stitch tapestries, which are now displayed together on one wall, and a few personal items.

The built-in furniture in the living room, designed by FMD, was key to establishing a restrained and uncluttered look. The plywood entertainment unit takes on the ▶



◂ form and outline of three 'houses', two of which are inverted. "I was keen to respond to the home's original pitched roof," says Fiona. "I was also mindful of providing generous storage to ensure Pam's minimal aesthetic could be achieved." She also took a streamlined approach to the kitchen's island bench; the lower portion of the unit is clad in a mirrored surface that reflects the timber floor, allowing it to appear unimpeded.

The same sense of efficiency was applied to the one and only bathroom, which has a solid sliding door between it and the main bedroom. When closed, it becomes a guest bathroom. "I travel a fair bit," says Pam, "and at this stage of my life I was looking for a low-maintenance home with spaces I enjoy being in at all times of the day."

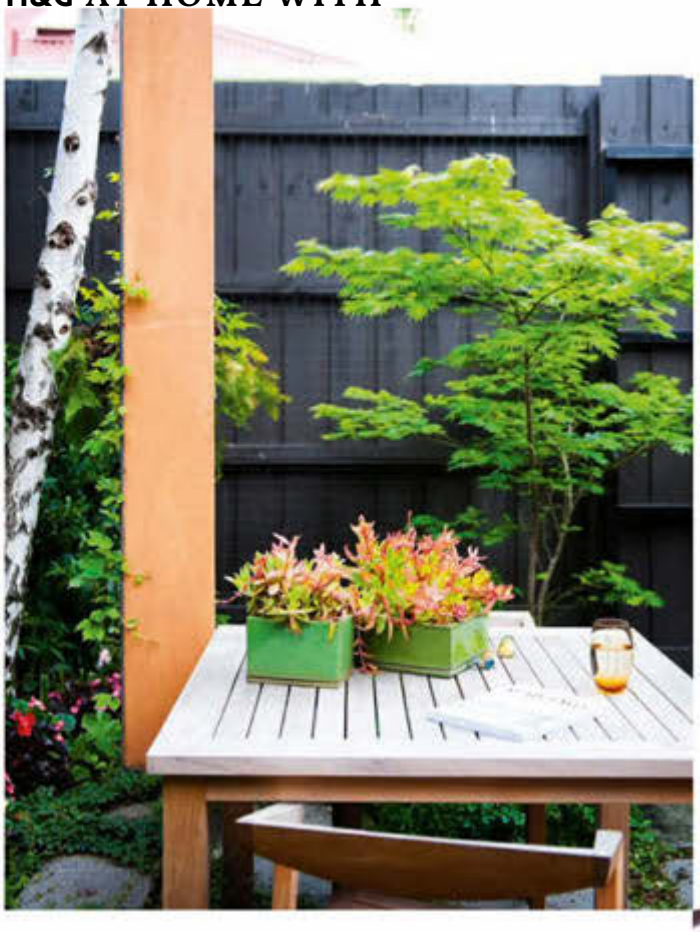
And that's exactly what she's got, with a thoughtful reminder of her mother carefully woven in. ▸

***FMD Architects, Melbourne, Victoria; (03) 9670 9671 or www.fmdarchitects.com.au. Eckersley Garden Architecture, Richmond, Victoria; (03) 9413 3215 or www.e-ga.com.au.***



**'IT'S MAGICAL SHOWERING IN THE MORNING AND LOOKING OUT ONTO THE FERNS.'** PAM

**LEFT** In the main bedroom there are a number of well-chosen elements – including the Hay Mega Dot quilt from Cult and side lights by Marz Designs – but the hero feature is the lightwell that penetrates the core of the home and illuminates the bathroom. Staghorn ferns and Boston ivy underplanted with sweet violet thrive in this zone, while the mirror-fronted vanity unit increases the sense of space. All tiles, Academy Tiles.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.



## DOWNSIZING DYNAMICS

Pam uses every part of her home. The spare bedroom, located at the front, has a desk by the window that benefits from a leafy, eastern aspect. One of its built-in wardrobes includes office equipment that allows for occasional working from home. The furniture throughout was also carefully considered because when Pam moved in she was keen to live with less. "I still wanted to surround myself with things that make me happy, but I also loved the idea of buying new furniture and accessories that were appropriate for this space," she says.

**'I GET ENORMOUS PLEASURE FROM JUST SITTING IN THE GARDEN AND POTTERING AROUND WITH MY FINGERS IN THE DIRT.'** PAM



**ABOVE /** A sublime new Japanese maple and a cluster of pre-existing silver birch trees work wonderfully together in the courtyard. Teak table, Jati Furniture.
**RIGHT /** The water feature brings the sound of trickling water into the living room. Silver vein creeper and Boston ivy were planted next to the posts and will eventually offer more protection from the afternoon sun. Plantings between the pavers include kidney weed, Corsican mint and white creeping thyme.
**OPPOSITE /** The home's original facade was restored by removing years of paintwork and exposing the brick. Pam brought the outdoor bench from her previous home. For similar, try Bunnings. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.



# look we love

Simplicity of form lies at the heart of this relaxed and personable interior. The gently seductive elements of wood and stone are spliced with blocks of colourful upholstery, accessories and a fresh green outlook from every room.




Rope **Light,** $260, Lightly; www.lightly.com.au. Verdelho stone **vase,** $50, Papaya; www.papaya.com.au. Studio **backing cloth** by Stewart Russell, POA, Spacecraft; www.spacecraftaustralia.com. Block linen **cushion cover** in Yellow, $89, Xavier & Me; www.xavierandme.com. Charles Wilson Seymour **chair,** from $2370, King Furniture; www.kingfurniture.com.au. Calligaris Symbol lacquered-beech **side table,** from $535, Voyager Interiors; www.voyagerinteriors.com.au. Diamond cable-knit cotton **throw,** $95, Weylandts; www.weylandts.com.au. H&G

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**FROM LEFT** Rose Gold nickel **vase,** $110, and Square Design **glass ball,** $65, Meizai. Bevelled glass **candlestick,** $140, and glass **candlestick,** $155, Durance. Worlds Away Cubo Reverse Mirror timber and laminate **side table,** $1925, Arthur G. Venue Waterfall **wallpaper** in Silver, $315/10m roll, Verve Designer Collections. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

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# DECORATING

INSPIRATION / HOW TO / TRENDS

Styling by Toni Briggs. Photograph by Derek Swalwell. Stylist's assistants Heather Dawson & Sally Martin.

# REFLECTED GLORY

Explore the decorating riches of shimmery interiors. Translucent furniture, lustrous surfaces and blushing hues ooze easy glamour.

STYLING **TONI BRIGGS** / PHOTOGRAPHY **DEREK SWALWELL**



## BLUSH HOUR

***Rosy pinks and textured finishes lift metallics into a more sophisticated realm.***

**RIGHT / clockwise from top** Hay Bits and Bobs glass **container** in Lavender, $19, Edge **notebooks,** $15/each, and acrylic **Stuff Box,** $161, Cult. *Home Chic: Decorating with Style* by India Mahdavi, $40, Manon Bis. Hay Clip Clip stainless-steel **bulldog clip,** $14, **spoon clip,** $19, **crocodile clip,** $14, and Phi metal **scissors,** $80, Cult. Gold round **paper clips,** $10/jar of 100, Kikki.K. Hay Bits and Bobs glass **containers,** $22 (small) and $34 (large), Cult. Drum MK2 iron **coffee table** with aluminium top, $699, Freedom. Santa Monica Beachhouse engineered-timber **flooring,** from $99/m² (supply only), Pacific Floors.

**OPPOSITE /** Scrollwork Trevira CS **fabric** in Platinum (left), from $299/m, and Zanzibar viscose-polyester **fabric** in Platinum, from $299/m, Westbury Textiles. **FOREGROUND from left** MissoniHome Pailin polyester-acrylic **cushion,** $630, Top3 by Design. Pedrali Pasha polycarbonate **armchair** in Transparent Clear, $610, Café Culture + Insitu. Metallic-printed linen **cushion,** from $400, Comer & King. Nigella velvet **cushion** with duck-feather insert in Cyclamen, $100, Laura Ashley. Casa Mia Amalia Silver Leaf beech **two-drawer console,** $2900, Grant Dorman Interior Products. Kartell Sparkle thermoplastic **table** in Transparent Crystal, $395, Space. Dimpled glass **paperweights,** $60 (medium) and $90 (large), Durance. Star Metallic **cowhide** in Off White/Silver, $945, NSW Leather. Flowers by Fleur.

FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.




*'For a luxurious, feminine feel, mix soft shimmering velvet, metallic linens and low-lustre silver-leaf finishes.'* ***Toni Briggs***



## GOLD RUSH

***Combine brushed copper in surprising forms with smoky glass for a glam slam.***

**LEFT /** Venue Holographic Squares **wallpaper** in Rose, $269/10m roll, Verve Designer Collections. Eastern Glass Verona glass **tumbler,** $10, and **highball glass,** $13, RM Hall. Glass and brass **box,** $89, Third Wing. Herdmar for RM Hall Industria stainless-steel and copper **cutlery,** $495/24-piece set, RM Hall. Copper Blend recycled-glass hexagon **mosaic tiles,** $264/m², and Bianca mother of pearl square **mosaic tiles,** $286/m², Byzantine Design.

**OPPOSITE /** **Curtain** in Larissa polyester fabric in Bronze, $110/m, Warwick Fabrics. **CUSHIONS from top** Metallic-printed Belgian linen **cushion,** from $350, Comer & King. Sahco Semiramis polyester-silk-cotton-polyamide **cushion** in Colour 01, $252, South Pacific Fabrics. Aurora Silk polyester-silk **cushion** in White Gold, $115, Verve Designer Collections. Pols Potten **pineapple,** $145, Voyager Interiors. Kartell by Laufen Fume thermoplastic **stool** in Fume, $445, Reece. Craft Enterprises Tivoli metal and glass **console,** $710, Jennifer Button Agency. Arteriors Ryder vintage brass and acrylic **lamp** with fabric shade, $785, Boyd Blue. Chic Circles **wallpaper** in Gold, $286/10m roll, Verve Designer Collections. Pols Potten Dot metal **stool** in Copper, $469, Voyager Interiors. Santa Monica Beachhouse engineered-timber **flooring,** from $99/m² (supply only), Pacific Floors. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

*'Mirrored, metallic, acrylic and translucent materials combine to create a light-filled interior.'* *Toni*





## FABRIC FANTASY

***Bold-patterned floaty fabrics take on a life of their own. Glass surfaces reflect the glory.***

**LEFT /** **from left** Pols Potten glass **vase,** $208, Exhibit Interiors. Jab Swirl polyester **fabric** in Green/Aqua, from $190/m, Seneca Textiles. Kartell Shibuya thermoplastic **vase** in Transparent Grey/Yellow/Blue, $235, Space. Ghost glass **side tables,** $199/nest of two, Freedom. Jonathan Adler Lucite **étagère,** $1995, Coco Repbulic. **ON SHELVES** **from top** Kartell U Shine thermoplastic **bowl** in Transparent Yellow, $235, Space. Sashay blown-glass **bulb vases** in Smoke, $70 (22cm), and $80 (30cm), Krosno. Création Baumann Sinfonia VI polyester **fabric** in Colour 218, from $165/m, Boyac. Designers Guild Byzantium linen **fabric** in Celadon, $515/m, Radford. Kartell One More polycarbonate **stool,** $565, Space.

**OPPOSITE /** Aria acrylic **pendant light,** $995, Laura Ashley. Thira polyester **fabric** in Silver, $90/m, Warwick Fabrics. Calligaris Parisienne polycarbonate **chairs,** $370/each, Voyager Interiors. Bernhardt Interiors Gustav stainless-steel **dining table** with glass top, $2995, Domo. **ON TABLE** **from left** IVV Speedy glass **bowls,** $261/set of six assorted, **goblets,** $261/set of six assorted, **tumblers,** $151/set of six assorted, and **carafe,** $116, Noritake. Frodig glass **dinner plates,** $4/each, and **side plates,** $3/each, Ikea. Frans Molenaar Glam polyester **rug** (1.6x2.3m) in Silver, $890, Halcyon Lake.

FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.



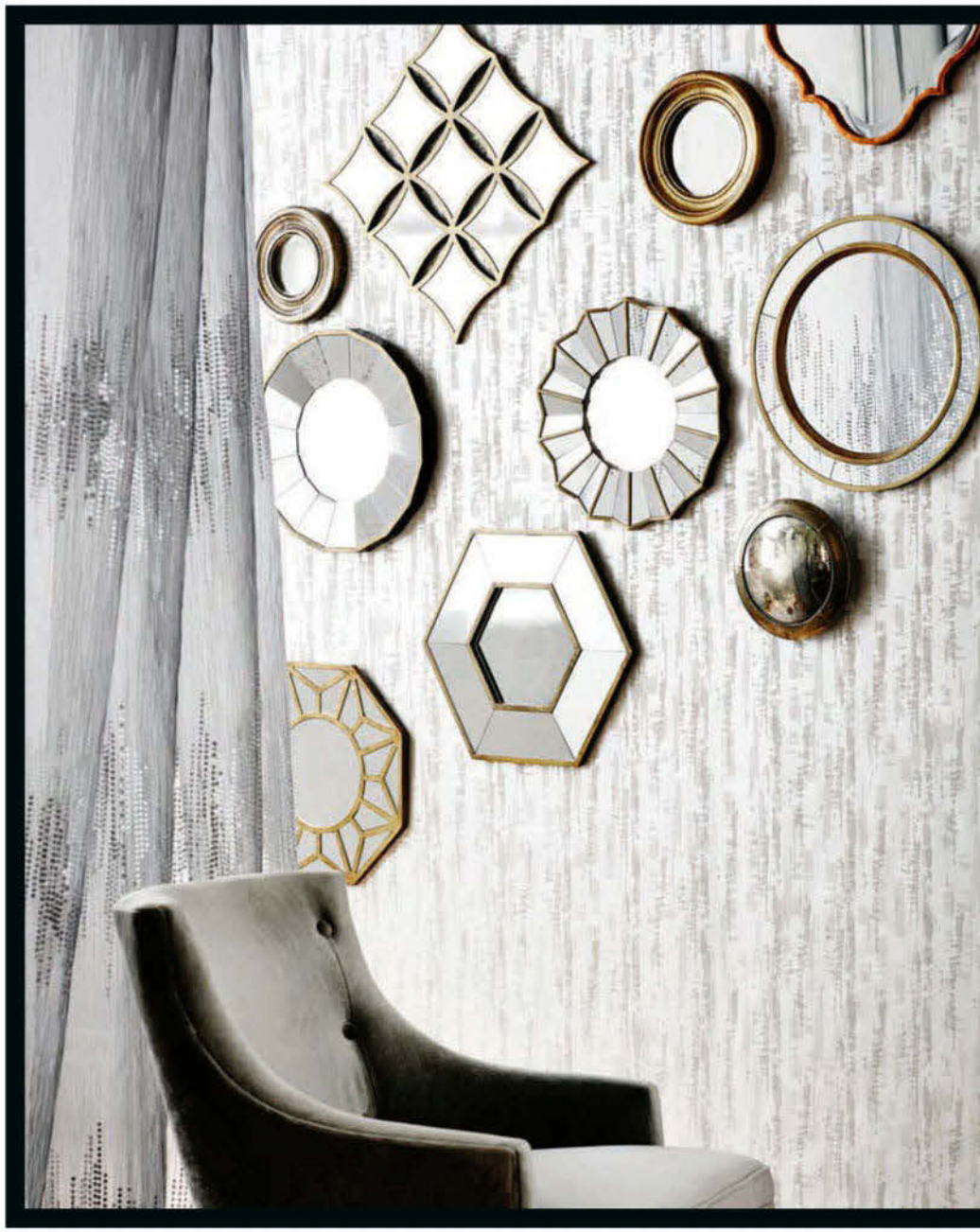


## CUSHIONING EFFECT

***Dial down metallic schemes with lustrous, tactile velvets.***

**RIGHT /** **Curtain** in Domain Textiles Twinkle polyester in Colour 609-2092, from $140/m, Grant Dorman Interior Products. Jonathan Adler Haines **armchair** with velvet upholstery, $1995, Coco Republic. Venue Waterfall **wallpaper** in Silver, $315/10m roll, Verve Designer Collections. **MIRRORS** **clockwise from top left** Harlem **button mirror** in Antique Silver Foil, $180, Boyd Blue. Origami **mirror,** $60, Exhibit Interiors. Harlem **Button mirror** in antique brass foil, $205, Boyd Blue. Deco gilded-bronze **mirror,** $120, Third Wing. Calife **mirror,** $70, Exhibit Interiors. Convex **button mirror** in Antique Brass Foil, $205, Boyd Blue. Saturn **mirror,** $55, Idra **mirror,** $65, Flora **mirror,** $60, and Facet **mirror,** $70, Exhibit Interiors.

**OPPOSITE /** **from left** JW Designs Cabaret polyester **fabric** in Ivory, $88/m Gummerson Fabrics. Cartier Heart Strings **print,** $1925 (framed), Coco Republic. Venue Waterfall **wallpaper** in Silver, $315/10m roll, Verve Designer Collections. Jonathan Adler Baxter **three-seater sofa** with velvet upholstery, $4995, Coco Republic. Nigella cotton-viscose velvet **cushions** with feather inserts in Marble (left) and Camomile, $100/each, Laura Ashley. De Sede DS-9045 aluminium **side table** in Bronze, $1995, Domo. Hay Colour Glass **low water glass,** $28, **high water glass,** $28, and **red wine glass,** $48, Cult. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.



*'Forget about bling. This look is all about subtlety; the metallics are softer, they're brushed or have acquired a patina.'* *Toni*

## WORK IT BACK

***Add a little Hollywood style with scene-stealing mirrored furnishings. Over-scale prints make a perfect supporting cast.***

**CURTAINS from left** Création Baumann Sinfonia VI polyester **fabric** in Colour 225, from $165/m, Boyac. JW Designs Circles viscose-polyester **fabric** in Red, $99/m, Gummerson Fabrics. Steel and mirror **trestle table,** $2899, Domayne. **ON TRESTLE from left** Butterfly mirrored **box,** $100/set of two, and Alicia mirrored **jewellery box,** $90, Laura Ashley. Hay Feather **pens,** $12/each, Colour Glass **Champagne flute,** $48, and Plisse **file** in Gunpowder, $48, Cult. Tobias polycarbonate **chair,** $99, Ikea. Santa Monica Beachhouse engineered-timber **flooring,** from $99/m² (supply only), Pacific Floors. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

H&G


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STYLE FILE

# MELISSA PENFOLD



Australia's keenest decorating eye shares the secrets and suppliers of stylish and affordable homewares.



There's no shortage of on-trend rugs this season, they are a great way to introduce texture and colour, give spaces individuality and tie the elements of a room together. We're mad for Private 0204 rugs (above), crafted from vintage hemp by Turkish artisans. Priced from $1490 at Manon Bis; (03) 9521 1866 or www.manonbis.com.au.

***The rules of rugs***

- ✚ Size it up. Make sure the rug is bigger than the sofa; rugs that are too small shrink and stiffen a space.
- ✚ Be bold with colours and textures. The best rugs are ablaze with colour.
- ✚ Do the touch test. Whether it's made of wool, jute, silk or shredded bicycle tyres, a rug has to feel good underfoot. If it doesn't tantalise your toes, forget it.
- ✚ Get a grip. Your rug mustn't slide about. Make sure the backing will grip the underlying surface.

*Follow me on Instagram at @melissapenfold.*



**TABLE TOPS**

Up your entertaining game with Kartell in Tavola tableware. Designed back in the 1970s, it's been reissued in hot new looks, shapes and colours dreamt up by leading designers and chefs. Feast your eyes on Patricia Urquiola's faceted pretties or Jean-Marie Massaud's organic Namaste melamine platters (above), which resemble natural stones; $225/set of three. Available from Space; (02) 8339 7588 or www.spacefurniture.com.au.

**OLY GOOD SHOW**

Among our favourite brands for super-cool statement pieces is Oly San Francisco, whose high-impact creations include this Copake side table in cast resin with antiqued mirror top and vintage silver finish, $2075. From Coco Republic; 1300 785 039 or www.cocorepublic.com.au.



**A TREAT IN STORE** Looking for storage as chic as the treasures stowed inside? Sagitine produces storage boxes, from $45, in sustainable cardboard with leather handles, which can be fitted into powder-coated aluminium stands with solid walnut tops. Below are the Santiago medium stand with six boxes, $1341; Shanghai small stand with 14 shoeboxes, $1305; and The City box, $225/set of three. Sagitine; 0498 498 489 or www.sagitine.com.






*At the exciting new store Marle in Darlinghurst, Sydney, owner Rob Manning offers deluxe seating (like this Downlow armchair, $1130), sofas, tables, desks, porcelain, cushions and other timeless home essentials. A must-visit. (02) 9332 2889*




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# FLOOR STORIES

Successful rooms start from the ground up, so select a floor palette that sings to create a room you love.

STYLING **ASHLEY PRATT**
PHOTOGRAPHY **WILL HORNER**

## HAMPTONS STYLE

***Sandy tones of timber and sisal work well with stone and tiles in blue-based neutrals.***

Photograph by Maree Homer (room). Still-life stylist's assistant Sarah Maloney. Flowers from Poho Flowers.




**1 /** Wooden Decoro porcelain **tile** in Grey, $133/m², Di Lorenzo Tiles. **2 /** Hues of Harmony cut/loop wool **carpet** in Denim Wash, $200/m² (installed), British Carpet Company. **3 /** Kennedy Point wool **carpet** in Passage Rock, $58/m² (installed), Cavalier Bremworth. **4 /** Vestige Argent Demi ceramic **tile,** $10/each, Skheme. **5 /** Recycled-douglas fir **flooring,** from $90/m², Australian Architectural Hardwoods. **6 /** Tundra laminated **flooring** in White Oak Effect, $15/m², Ikea. **7 /** Natural Silver Stone **tile,** from $82/m², Tiles By Kate. **8 /** Oriental Deluxe **sisal** in Sterling, $86/m², The Natural Floorcovering Centres. **9 /** Designer Collection Lamu wool **rug,** from $235/m², Armadillo&Co. **10 /** Texline HQR PVC **flooring** in Timber Honey, $65/m² (installed), Gerflor. **11 /** Quick-Step spotted Gum **laminate,** $28/m², Choices Flooring. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

**1 /** Diamond porcelain timber **tile,** $160/m², Tiles by Kate. **2 /** The Architect Collection engineered American oak **floorboard** in Smoked & Black, from $85/m², Royal Oak Floors. **3 /** Natural porcelain arabesque **tile,** $185/m², Tiles by Kate. **4 /** Recycled-blackbutt **flooring,** from $89/m², Australian Architectural Hardwoods. **5 /** Spenser wool **rug** (2x3m), $2200, and Kanterbury (striped) wool **rug** (2x3m), $1700, Tribe Home. **6 /** Livyn oak **vinyl** in Light Grey, $34/m², Quick-Step. **7 /** Belgian **sisal** in Wild Rice, $150/m², The Natural Floorcovering Centres. **8 /** Mexican Collective Cross terracotta **tile** in Sand and Star **tile** in White, both $350/m², Di Lorenzo Tiles. **9 /** Anna Carin Design Storm wool-silk **rug** (2.4x 3m), $7790, Designer Rugs. **10 /** Venis Ironker Cobre oxide porcelain **tile,** $105/m², Earp Bros. **11 /** Agora Grigio porcelain **tile,** $52/m², Beaumont Tiles. **12 /** Lisburn wool **carpet** in Damask, $117/m² (installed), Cavalier Bremworth.

FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.



## RUSTIC

***Warm up raw concrete and tiles with deep-toned wood and carpet.***




***'A floating concrete floor was the perfect solution for this artist's studio in an old carriageworks.'*** ***Meryl Hare, interior designer, Hare+Klein***

Photograph by Jenni Hare (this page).

## COLOUR & PATTERN

***Flooring is often the first thing you notice when you enter a room, so colour and pattern at ground level make a space come alive.***

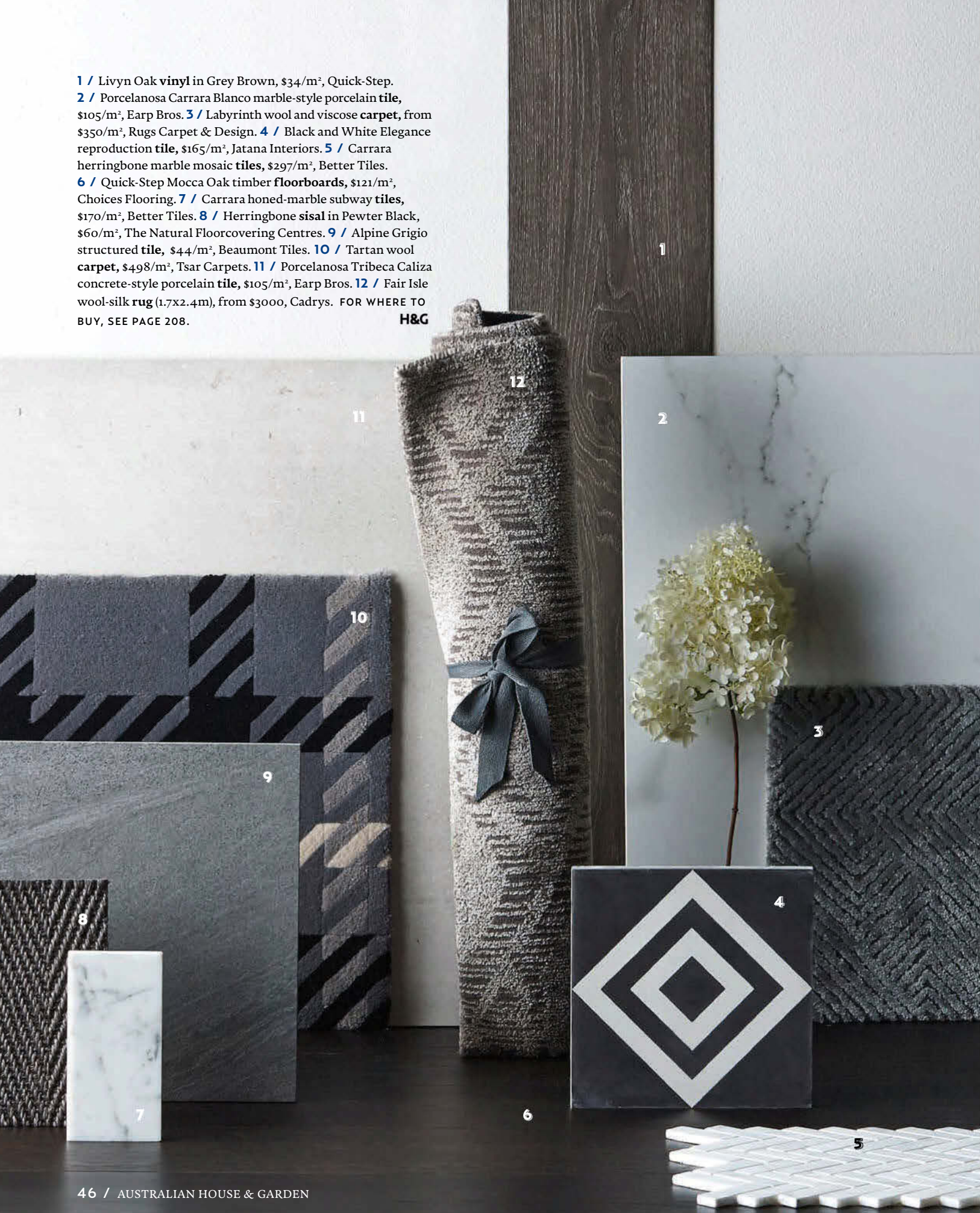


***'This bold, coloured rug is the pivotal piece and its pattern gives movement in both directions.'*** *Brendan Wong, interior designer, Brendan Wong Design*

Photograph by Prue Ruscoe/bauersyndication.com.au (this page). Artwork is *Tempest For DB* by Belinda Fox.




**1 /** Stone & More Calacatta smooth porcelain **tile,** $95/m², Di Lorenzo Tiles. **2 /** Distressed 3 wool-viscose **rug** in Purple, from $3465, Cadrys. **3 /** Bolon Create textured fabric **tile** in Simulo, $89/m², and Silence textured fabric **tile** in Illuminate, $93/m², The Andrews Group. **4 /** Caramel oak **floorboards,** $121/m², Quick-Step. **5 /** Hex Navona travertine mosaic **tiles,** $46/280mm² sheet, Skheme. **6 /** U-Color porcelain **tiles** in Lemon and Lime, $220/m², Di Lorenzo Tiles. **7 /** Designer Collection Hexagon wool **rug,** from $235/m², Armadillo&Co. **8 /** Mix Pattern porcelain hexagon **tiles,** $160/m², Tiles by Kate. **9 /** Tretford Cord goat-hair **carpet** in Bilberry, $95/m², Gibbon Group. **10 /** Designer Collection Persia wool **rug,** from $235/m², Armadillo&Co. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208. ▶

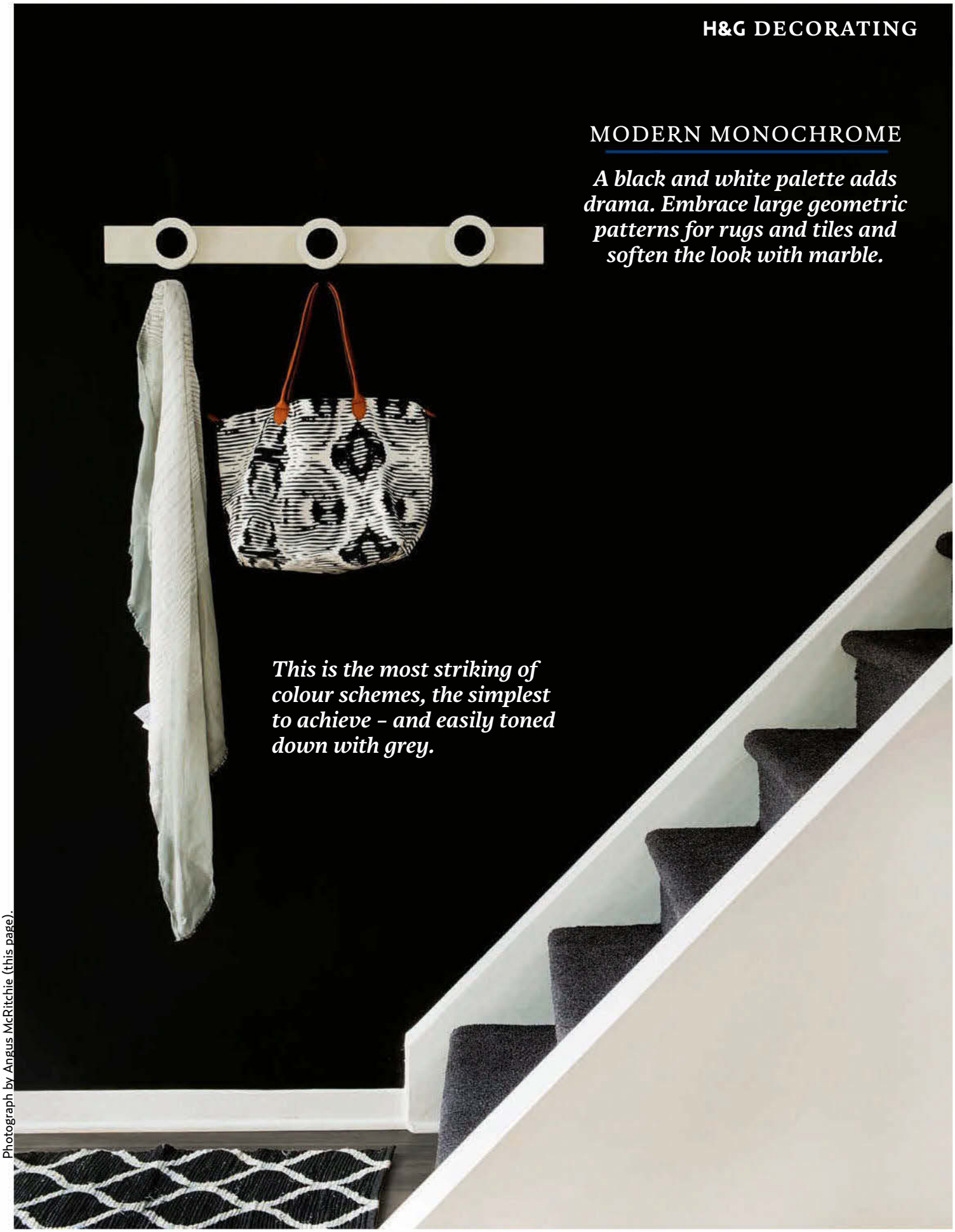



**1 /** Livyn Oak **vinyl** in Grey Brown, $34/m², Quick-Step. **2 /** Porcelanosa Carrara Blanco marble-style porcelain **tile,** $105/m², Earp Bros. **3 /** Labyrinth wool and viscose **carpet,** from $350/m², Rugs Carpet & Design. **4 /** Black and White Elegance reproduction **tile,** $165/m², Jatana Interiors. **5 /** Carrara herringbone marble mosaic **tiles,** $297/m², Better Tiles. **6 /** Quick-Step Mocca Oak timber **floorboards,** $121/m², Choices Flooring. **7 /** Carrara honed-marble subway **tiles,** $170/m², Better Tiles. **8 /** Herringbone **sisal** in Pewter Black, $60/m², The Natural Floorcovering Centres. **9 /** Alpine Grigio structured **tile,** $44/m², Beaumont Tiles. **10 /** Tartan wool **carpet,** $498/m², Tsar Carpets. **11 /** Porcelanosa Tribeca Caliza concrete-style porcelain **tile,** $105/m², Earp Bros. **12 /** Fair Isle wool-silk **rug** (1.7x2.4m), from $3000, Cadrys. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

H&G

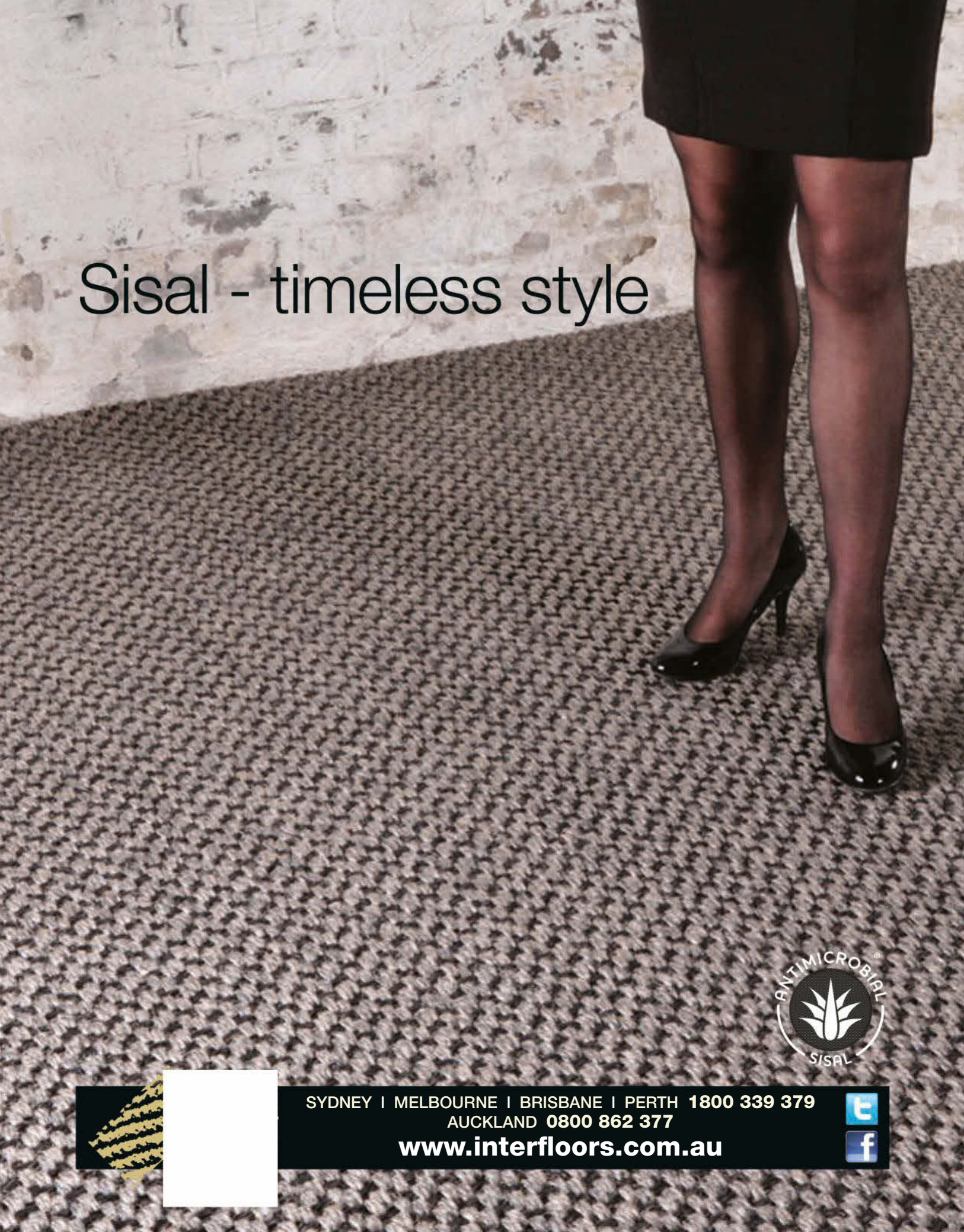
## MODERN MONOCHROME

***A black and white palette adds drama. Embrace large geometric patterns for rugs and tiles and soften the look with marble.***



***This is the most striking of colour schemes, the simplest to achieve – and easily toned down with grey.***

Photograph by Angus McRitchie (this page).




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MASTERCLASS #4

# COLOUR & TEXTURE



With a meticulous mood board to guide you, a stylish, cohesive interior is within reach – and decorating mistakes are easily avoided, writes **Darren Palmer.**



Back in the day, Easter eggs came from chickens, not the chocolate shop, and were painted with care, or fun and love. Each combination of colours, patterns and applications was unique and brought the plain beige/white/grey egg to life, and joy to the receiver.

Given that beige, white and grey are the colours most people favour in their homes, interiors need the same amount of care, colour and love as an old-fashioned Easter egg to give them lustre and bring rooms to life.

Eggs have no choice in their beigeness but most people choose this palette out of a fear of colour and a desire for safety. The big issue here is the lack of interest and contrast. The good news is that with a basic neutral starting point, it's a very easy problem to solve.

Your interiors brief and reference images (discussed in earlier columns) will reveal the mood you want to create. Gather the images of homes that look and feel the way you want yours to feel. Look at them intently. I don't mean flick through the pages cooing about how lovely the rooms are – really LOOK at the images. Study them. Note all the different colours you can see and where they are used. List the materials used, the flooring, the rug, the sofa, the legs on furniture. What the side tables are made of, what lamp shades are used, what's on the walls. Note cushions, books, flowers, decor items – all of these offer cues for colours, textures and materials.

When you examine the best rooms, the ones that look fantastic in *H&G*, the ones that win awards and adorn covers, you'll see contrast, interest, drama. Colour and texture bring a neutral interior to life.

If you've really done your homework, your list will be long and descriptive, noting colours, timbers, fabrics, weaves, paints and textural preferences, from smooth velvets to coarse open weaves to sheers. Layered together correctly, they will play like a symphony.

A lone violin can lack resonance, but played along with an orchestra it forms a very important part in the harmony and power of the score. The same is true of interior elements. You may not respond to one element in isolation but when it's part of a scheme, it really works.

A mood board is the fast path to a harmonious interior and sound decisions. A board can be something you stick down on a big piece of card, or a box of pieces you keep together and lay out on a table to view as a ▶



A LITTLE UPFRONT WORK WILL SAVE YOU DAYS AND DOLLARS.

◀ whole. The point is to bring together all of the elements for your project: carpet samples, paint swatches, sofa fabrics, timber samples for floors and furniture, bathroom tiles, wallpapers, tassels, piping, mirrors and whatever else you intend to use to decorate your 'egg'.

You should now be looking at two major principles of great interiors at play: complement and contrast. Your colours should all look like part of a family. The intensity, hue and warmth or coolness of each shade should complement the others, even if they're not appearing in the same room. The colours should sit well with the materials of the floor, sofa and whatever else you need to specify coverings for. When studying a board, you're not just looking for harmony; you'll also want to keep an eye out for things that may not belong. Look for jarring elements, for discord, for things that upset the balance. Remove these and see whether it feels and looks better. It's far easier to replace these elements at board stage than when the room is done, the sofa's made, the painters gone. This upfront work will save you days and dollars. Even if you intend to undertake part of your project now and part later, a mood board will allow you to make decisions now, knowing that future rooms will look as good, and tie in with those already completed. H&G

## MY BEDROOM STYLE GUIDE

**WALLCOVERINGS** Whether you choose paint, wallpaper, timber or upholstered panels, look to add some contrast and interest behind your bed. In the room opposite, an Elitis vinyl wallpaper with a mother-of-pearl finish was used in Gold, for a bit of naturally inspired glamour.
**ART** Above the bedhead, bedside or elsewhere in the room, art adds drama to your bedroom. The painting opposite, the client's own, is by Helen Mackay. The frame helped inform the palette.
**BEDHEAD** A lovely way to add height in a bedroom, a bedhead can be a great textural or sculptural element in itself. If you don't have room for a bedhead, as in this bedroom, use European cushions to build up height, colour and textural interest.
**EUROPEAN CUSHIONS** Use 60x60cm cushions, ideally feather-filled, to bring in colour and texture, pattern and shape. You can complement bed sheets or set up a contrast with equally appealing results.
**STANDARD PILLOWS** If you're styling a room for sale or to photograph, use standard pillows in the same size, fullness and brand to ensure an even look. Your top priority in your own bedroom should be, of course, a pillow that best facilitates a good night's sleep.
**SCATTER CUSHIONS** Purely for decoration, these should be used sparingly. One or two will generally suffice. Work them into a symmetrical or asymmetrical arrangement.
**BEDLINEN** Aim for 1000 thread-count sheets for luxurious rest. Cotton, bamboo, linen and blends of breathable, natural fabric are the only types worth looking into. Try mixing and matching colours for top and fitted sheets to achieve a contrast-rich and colourful look.
**BED COVER** If you have a double bed, use a queen-size bedcover; if it's a queen, use a king-size or super king-size cover that will drape the bed and cover the valance. This blue floral beauty is by Kas, from a few seasons ago.
**BED THROW** Use them to bring in another colour, texture or a pattern element when dressing the bed. But don't just 'throw' the throw; a careful, slightly structured display will look more sophisticated.
**BEDSIDE TABLES** In a guestroom, you can use side tables, stools or chairs as you please. If the bed is used nightly, make sure the tables have enough storage for day-to-day use. Consider the table's style, shape, colour and size. It's a way to help set or reinforce style and mood. The gold legs on this George table by Oly San Francisco from Coco Republic work very well in this room. The white gives just the right amount of relief from all the colour and texture.
**BEDSIDE LAMPS** Size, colour and texture all count. Height is a visual boon by the bed but if you're a reader, make sure you can control the level and direction of light. The lamp shown is from Coco Republic.
**RUG** This creates a welcome soft texture, lovely underfoot if you have timber or tiled floors.
**DECOR** Use flowers, novels, candles and the like to create a picture of the ideal pursuits you'd like to enjoy in the room.

To hear more tips from Darren, use the free *viewa* app and scan this page.




Photograph by Nick Scott/bauersyndication.com.au.




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TRENDS

# BERRY PATCH

*Dancing around marsala, the 2015 Pantone Colour of the Year, hearty pink and red hues bring warmth and energy to the autumnal palette.*




**1 /** Normann Copenhagen Ikono large glass and steel **pendant light** in Red, $675, Surrounding; (03) 9005 6253 or www.surrounding.com.au. **2 /** Lazenby **armchair** with velvet and wool upholstery, $3295, Southwood Home; (03) 9077 5474 or www.southwoodhome.com.au. **3 /** Watercolour Pink small stoneware **plate,** $55, Bonnie and Neil; (03) 9384 2234 or www.bonnieandneil.com.au. **4 /** Nomades Calabash medium wool felt **basket** in Pink Rubis, $95, Koskela; (02) 9280 0999 or koskela.com.au. **5 /** Brilliant large glass-lidded **box** in Dark Red, about $71, Normann Copenhagen; www.normann-copenhagen.com. **6 /** Scallop acrylic fringed **throw** in Berry, $70, Laura Ashley; 1800 033 453 or www.laura-ashley.com.au. **7 /** Nuance Penguin stainless-steel 1.7L **water pitcher** in Garnet, $99, David Jones; 1800 354 663 or www.davidjones.com.au. **8 /** Darcy upholstered timber **footstool** in Dalton Berry, $995, Laura Ashley. **9 /** Flores printed linen **cushion** in Sangria, $110, Walter G; (02) 8957 2650 or www.walter-g.com.au. **10 /** Anna-Carin Wild Berry wool **rug** (2.4x3m), $6480, Designer Rugs; 1300 802 561 or www.designerrugs.com.au. H&G

Produced by Lauren Barakat. Photograph by Will Horner (pitcher). Currency conversion correct at time of printing.

TRENDS

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**1 /** Mongolian Lamb lambswool **poufs,** $299/each, West Elm; 1800 239 516 or www.westelm.com.au. **2 /** Shaggy cotton **cushion** (45x45cm), $60, Linen House; (03) 9552 6000 or www.linenhouse.com. **3 /** Tassel fibre-blend **table lamp** with paper shade, $965, Boyd Blue; (07) 5527 0899 or www.boydblue.com. **4 /** Gypset Cargo Paris raffia, rattan, silk and cotton **pendant lights,** $1400/set of three, Eco Chic; 1300 897 715 or www.ecochic.com.au. **5 /** Round sheepskin **cushion** in Charcoal, $200, The Design Hunter; (02) 9369 3322 or www.thedesignhunter.com.au. **6 /** Baxter Nepal metal **armchair** with Mongolian sheepskin seat, from $2970, Criteria Collection; (03) 9421 2636 or www.criteriacollection.com.au. **7 /** Gigi New York Tassel leather **key chains** in Sand (left) and Indigo, $35/each, Papier D'Amour; (02) 9362 5200 or www.papierdamour.com.au. **8 /** Jute **wall hanging,** $90, The Dharma Door; (02) 6629 1114 or www.thedharmadoor.com.au. H&G

Produced by Ashley Pratt.





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Luxaflex® WINDOW FASHIONS GALLERY

# HUNTERS & GATHERERS

The drive to collect is a curious thing, the objects of affection as individual as the collectors themselves. Here, three creative folk discuss their compulsion to curate.



Each of Mardi's vintage lights has a place in her home and heart. She particularly loves the 1970s lamp on the stool, purchased from the Mill Markets in Geelong. **OPPOSITE /** Taras and his son Arakai, three, in Taras' home office. Taking centrestage is his beloved 1968 280LPagoda, while the display unit contains miniature versions of the same car. Arakai is astride a classic Silver Ride-on Racer, a first birthday present.

## MARDI DOHERTY
## *Interior designer*

*The shapely form and materials of vintage lights are a beacon for this Melbourne designer.*

When you're an interior designer by trade and the daughter of keen collectors, the chance of developing a serious collecting habit is high. "I've inherited the collecting gene," says Mardi Doherty, principal at Melbourne interior design practice Doherty Design Studio. "As a child, weekends were spent at auctions, and to this day I love nothing more than digging around antique shops and attending furniture and art auctions around Victoria."

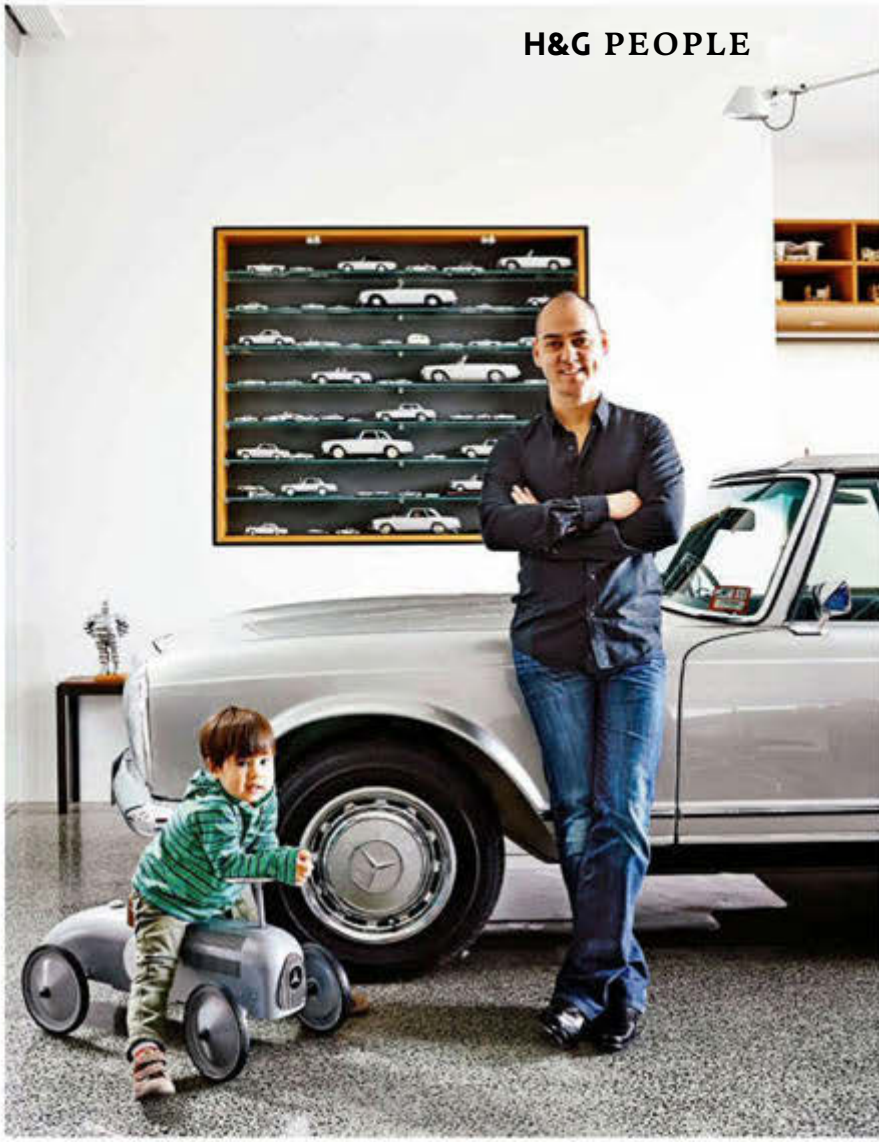
Mardi has collected vintage lights for more than a decade. "I started out collecting Murano glassware too, but having young children put an end to that!" she says. For Mardi, there's a seductive appeal about older lights. "I find the workmanship, detailing and finishes irresistible. Plus I love their history – some of which I know and some of which I can only imagine. I like picturing the homes they were once in, and giving them fresh life in my own."

Mardi's fossicking has yielded about 15 pieces – a mix of '70s European brass, and steel, pendant lights, '50s coloured glass and brass table lamps, and '40s Murano glass fittings. Many are dotted through her home; many more are kept in a storage unit. "Every six months I'll mix things up by moving lights to different rooms, adding a contemporary shade here or there, and bringing in new pieces from storage. Going [to the unit] is a favourite part of the process – it's like walking into a sweet shop and falling in love all over again."

So what does she look for in a piece? "The shape and materials are the first things that draw me in," she says. "But the clincher is the light they emit, I find it completely delicious." Price, she says, doesn't really come into it. "My collection ranges from a $40 lamp I picked up in a Geelong market to a $1750 light that I bought at auction. If something grabs my attention, I have to have it."

So what has she got her eye on now? "I recently missed out on a pair of beautiful floral pendants at auction," she says. "But that's the thing about old lights – they're designed to last, so if I keep my eyes open, there's every chance they will crop up again, and when that happens I won't walk away empty-handed!"

***Doherty Design Studio; dohertydesignstudio.com.au.***



## TARAS WOLF
## *Architect*

*This fan designed his home around his Mercedes-Benz collection – and his* Star Wars *memorabilia is out of this world.*

It's impossible for Melbourne architect Taras Wolf to pinpoint when he started collecting Mercedes-Benz paraphernalia. "They've always been a part of my life," says Taras. Growing up in a family where Mercs were the daily runabout, some of his favourite childhood memories are of researching and restoring classic models with his 'car nut' father. "His hobby became a bonding experience for us and I saw firsthand how a shared interest could bring a family together."

Some 30 years on, Taras is sharing this passion with his wife Rebecca and their three children, aged nine, six and three. Indeed, their three-level home was built around Taras' five classic Mercedes-Benzes with the star of ▶

Text by Georgia Madden (Mardi Doherty) & Dilvin Yasa (Taras Wolf). Styling by Toni Briggs (Mardi Doherty). Photography by Lauren Bamford (Mardi Doherty) & Derek Swalwell (Taras Wolf).



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**BRIAN STEENDYK**
*Architect*




Styling by Margot Bradden. Photograph by Jared Fowler.

◀ the show – a 1968 280SL Pagoda – parked in the middle of his office space in an open area adjacent to the family dining room. "Everything in my collection is open to be interacted with and within this space my family can decide if they want to participate or not," he says.

Along with the cars, there's Mercedes memorabilia, including brochures of every Mercedes-Benz since the 1960s, hundreds of books, and impressively, a glass display unit featuring toy model replicas of his cars that Taras diligently swaps once a month when he rotates the cars in his office. But it doesn't end there – Taras is also a keen *Star Wars* collector, a habit he picked up when he was four years old. "I only have a few thousand pieces now, but before I sold 90 per cent of them to buy the 280SL, I had enough *Star Wars* memorabilia to fill a three-tonne truck!" As is the case with his car collection, many of the action figures have been integrated into the family home, with Taras and his children pulling them down regularly for a play. "Collecting these has always been about reliving my childhood," he says. "But seeing my son enjoy them too, it feels like things have come full circle. I appreciate that."

He still enjoys picking up new pieces but says he probably won't add to the Mercedes-Benz collection – at least, not yet. "I'm trying to find the balance between how many I can accommodate and how many I can enjoy," he says. "But I eventually want to buy one more so I share the joy of researching, finding and restoring a vehicle with my kids. Isn't that what it's all about?"

***Wolf Architects; (03) 9807 1586 or wolf@wolfarchitects.com.au.***

'I'D DESCRIBE THE COLLECTION AS PART OF MY LIFE-LONG LEARNING.' BRIAN STEENDŸK

**PREVIOUS PAGE /** Brian's parents handed down this classic T4 chair, crafted by Fred Lowen for Tessa in 1971. On the shelves are some of his natural ephemera, including a collection of twigs, stones and coral. There are also the skeletons of crustaceans and succulent plants displaying the Fibonacci series spiral growth pattern.

## BRIAN STEENDŸK
## *Architect*

*This Queensland bowerbird has trained his eye to seek out curvy forms and intricate patterns in natural objects.*

Brian Steendÿk has spent a lifetime studying patterns. The Brisbane architect and furniture designer is fascinated by the markings found on natural things: the ripples on a shell, the perforations on a lotus pod or the radiating circles on a sawn piece of wood. And they all form part of his collection of "natural elements with beautiful patterns", a prized, ever-growing assemblage he keeps on a bookcase in his library.

"The collection is eclectic and includes mundane, everyday things through to more intricate things," says Brian. He finds these objects in the most unexpected places. "There's even a block of wood I collected from a building site: one face is normal sawn timber, but the other face is intricate and the way it's been cut and broken is exquisite."

Like a bowerbird, Brian is perpetually seeking out patterns that resonate with him. He is particularly drawn to spirals and curvilinear forms. "I'd describe the collection as part of my life-long learning. I'm always training my eye. It's a constant searching for these little elements."

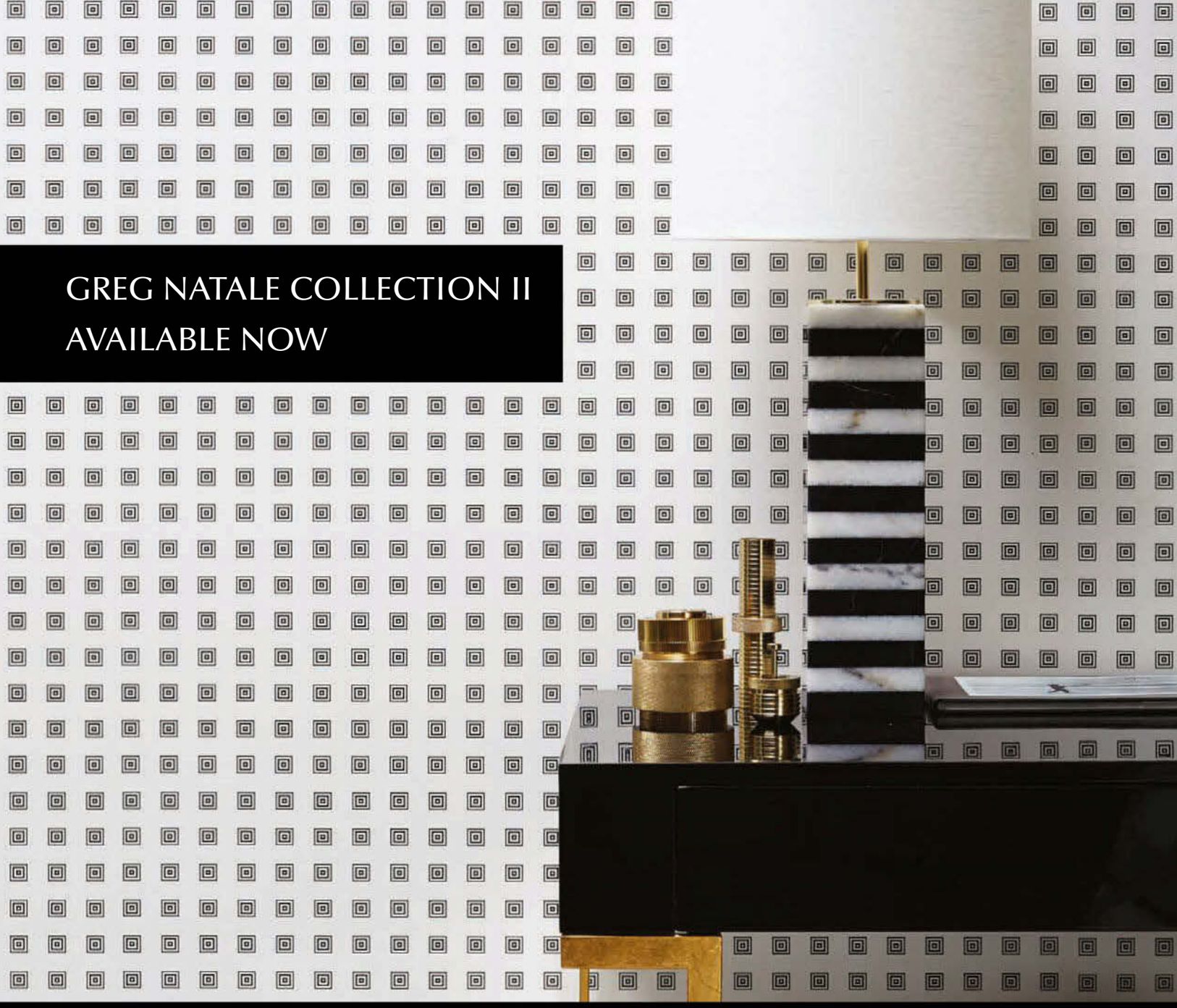
Far from being mere objects of beauty, these things represent a deeply significant interest for Brian. "There's something about the repetition of form and pattern that we humans feel at one with," he says. "It gives us a sense of calm and belonging."

This fascination for pattern has direct relevance to Brian's work. He has a deep respect for the Renaissance mathematicians who sought to explain natural phenomena through numerical sequences and equations. "It's integral to what I try to do with my architectural and object design: there's a mathematical equation behind all the spaces and objects I design."

Brian is also a collector of chairs. Among his selection are '70s Tessa T4 chairs, PK22 chairs by Poul Kjaerholm, a few Thonet No. 14s, and a Grant Featherston fibreglass chair with a footstool that turns it into a chaise longue. The Tessa chair has particular meaning for Brian, who inherited four from his parents. "It was designed by Fred Lowen who won an Australian Design Award for the design in the 1970s." Brian won the same award in 2003 for his Cero chair: a happy coincidence that is not lost on a collector with an eye for patterns. H&G

***Steendÿk; (07) 3839 0400 or steendyk.com.***

Text by Elizabeth Wilson.




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*Products shown: On wall Greg Natale Hellenica wallpaper in Black on White.*

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*At home with interior designer Kate Connors*

# INSIDER

NEWS / REVIEWS / DESIGN / PEOPLE

Styling by Ashley Pratt. Photograph by Will Horner.

## KATE CONNORS
## *Kate Connors Interiors*

The Art Deco apartment in Sydney's east that Kate shares with her husband Matt reflects her love of the wabi-sabi aesthetic.

### MY FAVE THINGS

(see previous page)
***Chair:*** A roadside find that I restored. The upholstery is a combination of linens.
***Cushion:*** Patched linens and velvet made under my label Ap.art.ment Collective and sold through Home Industry.
***You Me & The Sea:*** A work by Jai Vasickek purchased at Ahoy Trader in Byron Bay.
***Small artworks:*** Screenprints by Me and Amber, paintings by Julie Paterson from Cloth and skyline of NYC picked up at a market in Brooklyn.
***Timber shelf:*** A Bonnie and Neil shadow box. I'm always in need of more display space!
***Small ceramics:*** I have a thing for handmade ceramics. My collection includes pieces by Bridget Bodenham, Katherine Mahoney, Kris Coad and Yoko Ozawa.
***Vases:*** From the Connection Series by Liz Stops.
***Bird artwork:*** *Look South (Little Penguin)* by Shaun Freeman.
***Bobbins:*** A gift from my mum. I love that one still has a remnant of yarn on it.
***Lamp:*** By Szilvia György.
***Seascape:*** I gave my husband this photograph by Eugene Tan for Christmas a couple of years ago. He's been hinting for a bigger one ever since.
**Kate Connors Interiors; kateconnors.com.**





**WHERE KATE SHOPS FOR... HOMEWARES & GIFTS: HOME INDUSTRY. FURNITURE: DIRTY JANES EMPORIUM, MITCHELL ROAD ANTIQUE & DESIGN CENTRE. ARTWORKS: PLANET.**



## design file: Greg Natale

We love a good collaboration and Greg Natale's second collection of wallpapers for Porter's Paints is a winner. "I'm constantly inspired by pattern – its versatility, its energy and its endless possibilities," says Greg (pictured below). "The sophisticated geometrics, dynamic line and comprehensive range of colours in this collection have something for all lovers of pattern." Aquarius in Gold on White (above, $164/10.5m roll), is a playful, painterly print – somewhat of a departure from classic Natale designs but totally gorgeous. Use it for entrance halls or feature walls. Porters Paints; 1800 656 664 or www.porters.com.au.



## DESIGN EVOLUTION: *Délonghi Kettle*

**1997-98**
The chic Argento is launched, in a fingerprint-resistant brushed-silver finish.



**2001**
Perfecto, a sleeker kettle with a strong Italian aesthetic, is hot news.





## NOTEWORTHY

***What is it*** Kartell Tavola Collection Jellies PMMA and polycarbonate tableware, $25–$115/piece.
***Designer*** Patricia Urquiola.
***Why we love it*** For its intricate patterns, delicate colours and sophisticated yet practical nature.
***Where to get it*** Space; (02) 8339 7588 or www.spacefurniture.com.au.



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This breathtaking Triad 15 Chandelier from US design house Apparatus Studio is a true investment piece. From $18,150. Criteria Collection; (03) 9421 2636 or www.criteriacollection.com.au.

## NUMBER CRUNCH



### *Paul Gould*

***The group general manager of lifestyle brand Sheridan shares some fascinating stats.***

**1967**
***Launch year***
Sheridan was founded by Claudio Alcorso, a pioneer in the Australian textile industry. Alcorso migrated to Australia from Italy, bringing with him a love of bold colour and premium-quality textiles.

**1200**
***Thread count***
Sheridan's highest thread-count products are the Millennia and Palais collections. They are the ultimate luxury.

**48**
***Scent Collection products***
Launched in 2014, the scent collection – consisting of candles, room sprays, lotions and washes – was designed to capture the essence of the Australian lifestyle.

**14**
***Countries***
Sheridan has become a truly international brand, with our products sold all over the world.

**7650**
***Loads of washing***
To ensure the highest quality across all collections Sheridan's Adelaide Testing Laboratory does a minimum of 7650 loads of washing annually. Each towel is washed 100 times, compared to the international standard of three.
**www.sheridan.com.au.** ▶

Text by Ashley Pratt. For Where to Buy, see page 208.

**2003**
Metropolis takes its inspiration from Art Deco architecture.



**2007**
The Esclusivo has a 1960s vibe, a nod to mid-century modernism.



**2014**
Scultura takes elements of previous models and remodels it into an exciting new form.



**2015**
The company's popular Icona design (2009) is revamped with Distinta.







**FROM LEFT** Kartell's new home fragrance collection. Designers Guild fabric, Willow Flower. Jan Kath's Spacecraft rug for Front London, one of many space inspired designs. Rémi Bouhaniche's TOA chair for Ligne Roset.

# FRENCH ACCENTS

## The recent Maison&Objet homewares fair in Paris did not disappoint, writes **Mary Nguyen.**

It's a fair renowned for hosting brands and designers who innovate and inspire, and the 2015 Maison&Objet Paris showcase – it's 20th – was no exception.

The wares on display embodied both a return to traditional craftsmanship and the exciting possibilities afforded by new technology. At the Déco Off events, digitally printed fabrics and wallpapers with intricate details, vivid colours and historical references were the star of the show. Designers Guild's Shanghai Garden collection of fabrics, including designs such as Willow Flower, takes inspiration from classical Chinese paintings, opera and costume. At Liberty London's Art Fabrics show, the headliner was Jeffery Rose Tree from The Secret Garden collection. It features a mythological tree of beauty, the trunk pulling together all the designs in the collection.

The botanical theme continued in wallpapers – lush green fronds at Christian Lacroix and in monochrome with Tiphaine de Bodman's Jungle and Custhom's Aves. Cole & Son produced a take on the Secret Garden too, as well as a reworking of its Woods wallpaper, this time with stars.

Tactile materials were used in new, surprising ways. Pierre Frey presented an impressive range of linens – block printed, embroidered, plain and patterned; Sebastian Herkner mixed marble with lacquer in side tables for La Chance, while Retegui produced lightweight marble shelving, tableware and mirrors. Alki launched the world's first bioplastic chair, designed by Jean Louis Iratzoki.

Other designers went interstellar: Jan Kath's Spacecraft rugs for Front London; Multifacet, the concrete furniture collection by Matali Crasset; and Dirk Vander Kooij's UFO-shaped 3D-printed lighting.

Colour continues to reign. Pastels deepened to blush (Rémi Bouhaniche's TOA chair for Ligne Roset) and rouge, bottle green (Munna's Time collection), powder blues (Ferm Living's tableware) and jewel tones in Kartell's new home fragrance line. Sweet pickings, all. ▶



**Salute marble and lacquer side tables by Sebastian Herkner for La Chance.**

# TALKING SHOP

## H&G INSIDER

### ◀ REAL BEAUTY

Local skincare brand Aesop has collaborated with Beirut lighting studio .PSLAB and Melbourne's Kerstin Thompson Architects on the design of its new store in Emporium Melbourne (pictured). Australian spotted gum reinforces the brand's botanical ethos and is juxtaposed with LED projectors and suspended lighting to showcase the beautifully packaged products. *Emporium Melbourne, 287 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne. www.aesop.com.*

### FINE FASHION

Zara Home, in Melbourne's Highpoint shopping centre, is the new destination for innovative design at wallet-friendly prices. The 310m² store houses collections of bedding, table and bath linens, furniture, tableware and homewares all designed with fashion trends in mind. With new items arriving weekly, it's a one-stop shop for lovers of home couture. *Highpoint, 120-200 Rosamond Road, Maribyrnong.*



DOMESTIC BLISS

## *Grace Cossington Smith*

### Knit, pearl... rebel

*The sock knitter* (left), painted by Grace Cossington Smith in 1915, depicted her sister knitting for the war effort. The placid, domestic subject matter belies its impact: this work heralded the Australian art world's transition into post-impressionist modernism. The flat planes of pure colour and radically divided composition defied the conventions for Old Master palettes and rosy realism.

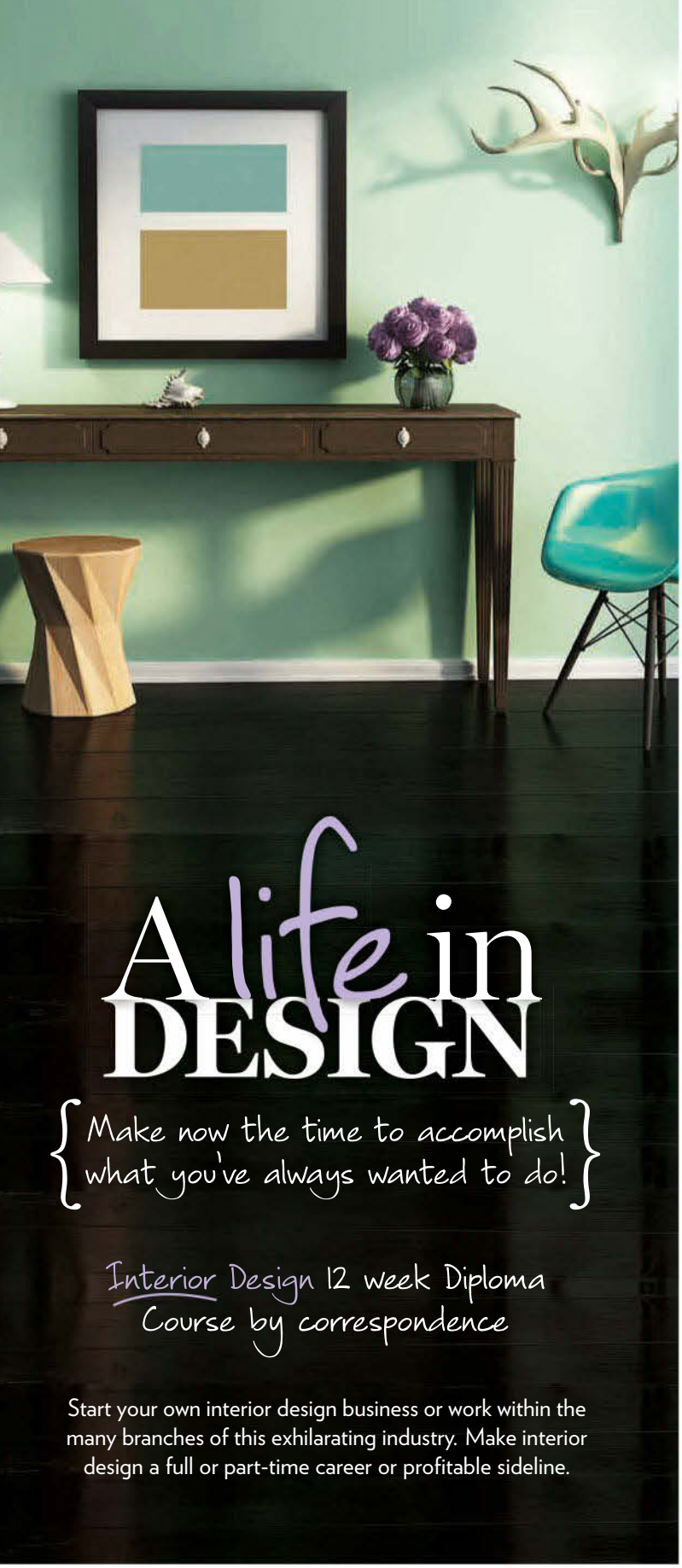
### Ahead of her time

Cossington Smith was still at art school when she painted *The sock knitter* and lived most of her life in the same house in Turramurra on Sydney's Northern Beaches, yet her works display both vision and innovation. She went on to paint a seminal image of the Sydney Harbour Bridge under construction (*The bridge in-curve*) and a Cubism-influenced scene of the David Jones cafeteria (*The Lacquer Room*).

### Local colour

It's hard to imagine a world without bright colour or streamlined geometry. *The sock knitter* completely divorced mid tones, deep shadows and allegory while quietly ushering Modernism into Australian painting. For us, it is as revolutionary as Picasso's *Guernica*, but with considerably less drama. **Follow the Flag: Australian Artists at War 1914-45 opens at the National Gallery of Victoria on April 24.** ▶

Text by Ashley Pratt (Talking Shop), Anna Johnson (Domestic Bliss). *The sock knitter* reproduced courtesy of The Art Gallery of NSW.




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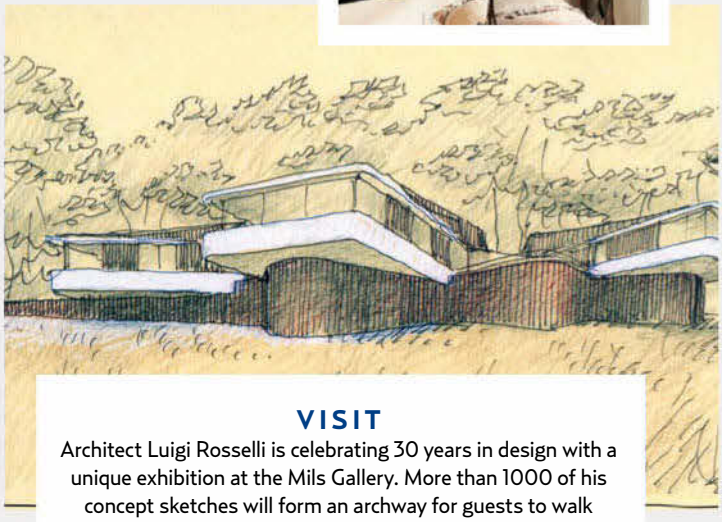



## *WATCH*

***For new insights into one of the world's most celebrated artists catch Vincent van Gogh – A New Way Of Seeing, in selected cinemas from 18 April. The film includes expert discourse and exclusive new material. www.exhibitiononscreen.com.***

***Blog*** Run by Brooklyn-based writer Grace Bonney, Design*Sponge is a hub for all things creative. Browse through Grace's curated collection of inspiring interiors, plus profiles on cool companies and artists to watch, DIY projects and tips on food and travel. www.designsponge.com.





### VISIT

Architect Luigi Rosselli is celebrating 30 years in design with a unique exhibition at the Mils Gallery. More than 1000 of his concept sketches will form an archway for guests to walk through. Check it out from April 23 until May 6 at 15 Randle St, Surry Hills, NSW. www.luigirosselli.com.

***Read*** Amanda Talbot's *Happy* (Murdoch Books, $70), a global pictorial survey that reveals how architecture and interior design can influence our happiness, health, efficiency and overall wellbeing.




***See*** Melbourne's ART+CLIMATE=CHANGE festival, April 11-May 17, brings together local and international artists for a series of exhibitions and events to discuss creative solutions to the challenges of climate change. Go to www.climarte.org. **H&G**

Text by Lauren Barakat.



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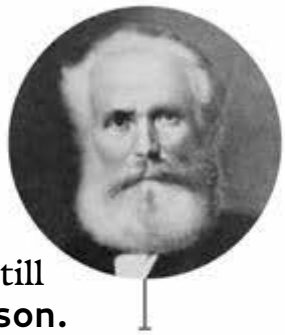


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DESIGN MOMENT

# THONET



**The original bentwood chairs are still seats of power, writes Chris Pearson.**

Michael Thonet made a breakthrough in his Vienna workshop in 1859 that would resonate throughout the design world. After contorting timber rods, he unveiled the No. 14 bentwood bistro chair, which would be produced, virtually unchanged, into the 21st century.

The German-born cabinetmaker (pictured) had been experimenting with techniques for bending beech, a timber chosen for its pliability, since 1930. He placed straight beech rods in a pressure vessel and then exposed them to steam for five hours, which made the resins in the timber malleable. Afterwards, he placed them quickly into cast-iron moulds. The timber had to be at 100˚C, so he had just minutes to work. When cooled, the hardened resin ensured the timber would hold its shape.

Starting with the No. 1 chair in 1850, Thonet (pronounced *toe-net*) refined his techniques over successive designs, but it was chair No. 14 that made people take notice. It comprised just six pieces of bentwood, 10 screws and two nuts. What's more, it was easy on the eye, with its sweeping open back and a seat of moulded plywood or wicker. (The latter was popular with cafe owners because it allowed spilt coffee to drain through.)

Imagine the oohs and aahs at the unveiling. This was still a world of salons furnished with heavy, juggernaut sofas and armchairs. Where weight and bulk had long equalled quality, this svelte upstart turned the industry on its head.

Easy to mass-produce, the 14 would go on to become the most successful industrial product of the 19th century.



No. 1 chair, 1850.



No. 14 chair, 1850.



No. 18 chair, 1876.



No. 21 rocking chair, 1880.



James Irvine's update of No. 14 for Muji, 2008.

Most surprising of all, it pioneered the flat pack. Almost a century before Ikea introduced Allen keys, Thonet was shipping crates of unassembled chairs across the globe. "They opened the world up to export furniture," says Nicholas Barratt, Thonet Australia's sales and marketing manager.

After Michael's death, his heirs went on to tweak the design. The No. 18 chair, launched in 1876, was an extension of the 14, featuring a stronger back and extra bracing. It's often confused for the original. Today, Nicholas sells thousands of 18s a year, with demand outstripping that for the 14 "because it is sturdier".

But the 14 remains the favourite. A staggering 50 million were sold before 1930 and it's still in production. No. 14s graced the homes of Picasso and Einstein, while architect Le Corbusier effused: "Never was a better and more elegant design and more precisely crafted and practical item created".

Nicholas is a chair tragic who has a personal collection of about 160 rarities, including two early No. 14s and six No. 20s, a later design. But the 18's current popularity rules it out for the moment.

## WHAT IT MEANS TO US

"The No. 14 remains one of the world's best-selling chairs," says Nicholas. You can choose different timber hues, buy 14s in black and custom colours, and even with contrasting 'socks'. In 2009, Milan-based designer James Irvine reinterpreted the 14 in an even more streamlined design for Japanese retailer Muji. The aim was "to help 18-35-year-olds enter the Thonet brand world", said then Thonet CEO Roland Ohnacker. This handsome newcomer is a fitting tribute to the 156-year-old trailblazer. H&G

**Thonet Australia; 1800 800 777 or www.thonet.com.au.**

Photography courtesy of Thonet.




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GREEN THUMB

# JUDY HORTON

**The legendary horticulturist recently retired after 22 years as advisor at Yates – but still works on an iconic gardening book and shares her knowledge on radio.**

***When did your love of gardening take hold?*** I was originally a primary school teacher. I fell in love with gardening when my husband Rob and I moved to a 2ha block on Sydney's outskirts in the early 1970s. When our children went to school, there was a waiting list for teaching positions, so I studied horticulture. Then I started working in a plant nursery and never went back to a classroom.

***Tell us about your career.*** I worked in nurseries and as a bush regenerator for the NSW National Trust. While I was working at Swane's Nursery, Valerie Swane, one of my mentors, asked me to fill in for her on the ABC's garden talkback show. That was the beginning of my radio career. In 1992 Yates asked me to fill in as garden adviser. My two-month contract was extended and lasted 22 years.

***What's the role of a garden advisor?*** Providing information and inspiration so people have success and get joy, rather than frustration, from their gardens.

***What did you love about your job?*** Communicating with gardeners from all over Australia. And being responsible for updating and maintaining five editions of *Yates' Garden Guide*, the iconic book that was first published in 1895.

***It continues to be one of Australia's best-selling gardening books. Why?*** Because of its practicality – it covers all the basics. Plus, it gets updated and modernised every few years.

***What do you love about gardening?*** The term 'biophilia', coined by [biologist] Edward O. Wilson, hypothesises that human beings have a built-in need for, and attraction to, other living things. I think this must be true: when I spend time in the garden I always end up with an enhanced sense of wellbeing.

***How do you describe your garden?*** It's a bit messy but I love the way it blends into the bush. I've spent 20 years removing privet bushes and I've replaced them with Australian rainforest species, which have now established their own habitats with overhead canopy and understorey plants, and heaps of wildlife.

***What projects are you working on now?*** I'm starting a large vegie patch now that I have more time. And continuing my fight against privet! I'm updating the 44th edition of *Yates' Garden Guide* and planning trips as a botanical guide with Botanica World Discoveries.

***Always take time to smell the ...*** lemon myrtle (*Backhousia citriodora*) when in the rainforest. In addition to its bunches of creamy white flowers, you can pick the leaves at any time of year. They smell like a cross between lemon and lime and can be used in cooking. This tree can even be used in a small suburban garden as a clipped hedge, and the smell as you clip the leaves is sensational. H&G

## JUDY'S FAVOURITE...




***Book*** Obviously it's the *Yates Garden Guide* (HarperCollins, $39.99).



***Plant*** Hellebores: I love the way they bloom in winter and last so long.



***Gardening tool*** With all the cutting back I do, it has to be my secateurs.

Produced by Elizabeth Wilson. Photography by John Paul Urizar (portrait), Getty Images (hellebore), Chris Jansen/bauersyndication.com.au (secateurs).




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**78 VICTORIA**
*A dash of panache works an Edwardian gem into a happy landing for one lucky family.*

**86 ACT**
*A savvy renovation opens the door to seamless indoor-outdoor living.*

**96 NSW**
*When going up wasn't an option, excavating was the answer. This home now has space, light and flow.*

**104 VICTORIA**
*A heritage home, bought in near-original condition, is now a flexible family haven.*

**112 NSW**
*It took some doing, but this grand old dame is lovely to look at from every angle.*












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# HOUSES

RENOVATION REWARDS



**MAIN BEDROOM /** Antique and contemporary pieces are beautifully combined. Bedside table, Leonard Joel Auction House. Throw, Country Road. **ENTRANCE /** Marilla with Harvey and Bridget in front of their bright yellow door. Bunting fabric, Spotlight. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

# *Tale of the* CENTURY

## An Edwardian weatherboard home in Melbourne is restyled and updated for a new era of family-friendly living.

STYLING & STORY **JUDY OSTERGAARD**
PHOTOGRAPHY **DEREK SWALWELL**


FEATURE PLANTS
FRONT GARDEN
'Iceberg' rose
Licorice plant
(Helichrysum petiolare)
BACKYARD HEDGE
Lilly pilly (Syzygium
paniculata
'Backyard Bliss')
RUD-O SAURUS
REX
Photo Credit: xxxx



## *This is the life*

"I love having the ability to pull back the sliding doors and open up the back area to the garden," says owner Marilla O'Sullivan. While the children and their friends run in and out, the parents can catch up on paperwork in the study nook tucked into one side of the kitchen. "The living, dining and kitchen zone is my favourite area because the L-shaped layout gives each space its own identity."

When Marilla and Sean O'Sullivan purchased an Edwardian home in inner south-eastern Melbourne four years ago, many of its distinctive features had been removed, covered over or modernised. Yet the couple only had to look at neighbouring homes to see how attractive it could be after a well-considered restoration.

"Most of the houses in our street were built by the same builder," says Marilla. "They all have pitched roofs and similar facades with different exterior colours. It's a unique and pretty street to walk down."

The desire to restore the home went hand in hand with the need to update its functionality. Having renovated several times, Marilla and Sean knew just what they wanted to change and incorporate. "We needed four bedrooms, two bathrooms, and an open-plan living, dining and kitchen area that wasn't just a square box," says Marilla. "The back of the house faces south and we wanted to capture as much light as possible, so we designed the addition as an L shape. We worked out the floor plan and hired a draftsperson to draw up the plans."

Marilla wasted no time replacing fittings from the '70s and '80s with more sympathetic Edwardian-style features. "I hunted around salvage yards and on eBay for the right windows and managed to find an Edwardian front door the same size as our door frame," she says. "I found an original fireplace insert and mantelpiece for my daughter's room, and we reinstalled ceiling roses, cornices and skirting boards."

"Wherever we go, if I see something architectural or decorative that I like, I'll get my phone out and start snapping away."

The front verandah was restored and the new door put in place. Along the hall, in the original part of the home, there's the main bedroom with ensuite, a study-cum-guestroom, and separate bedrooms for seven-year-old Harvey and four-year-old Bridget.

**LIVING /** Open shelves display collectables on either side of the bluestone-tiled chimneybreast. Sofa, Arthur G. Armchairs, Leonard Joel Auction House. Coffee table, Matt Blatt. Cushion, Temple & Webster. Rug, Gaudion Furniture. The floorboards are American oak with a matt oil finish. Artwork by Charles Blackman. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.



*'We love the fireplace in the living room, especially in the colder months. There's nothing better than the sound of a fire.'* Marilla



◀ Housed in the new addition, adjacent to a new bathroom, is the open living, dining and kitchen area. Spacious and light, this zone is fitted with large sliding doors that lead to the back garden. Another eye-catching feature is the raised section of ceiling, designed by Sean, that starts where the hallway ends. Fitted with high-set windows, it functions like an atrium, by directing extra daylight into the interior.

The roomy living area features an arresting open fireplace, the chimneybreast tiled with sleek bluestone tiles, giving the space a contemporary monochromatic look. "We love the fireplace in the living area, especially during the colder months," says Marilla. "There's nothing better than the sound of a fire."

The kitchen, which looks out to the back garden, has been carefully planned, down to the smallest detail. "Rather than having stools along one side, we designed the bench so the stools face each other like at a table," says Marilla. "This has become the hub of the home. Even when friends and family come over we tend to sit at the bench rather than at the dining table."

Plantation shutters grace the dining area windows as well as those in the bedrooms and bathrooms. These look smart on Edwardian-era houses while maintaining privacy and allowing in plenty of light.

Marilla and Sean have put their mark on this heritage home, and their unique touch is evident right from the entrance. "I love the yellow front door," says Marilla. "I wanted a fun colour and it works with the dark weatherboard and white trim. The whole house 'pops' with happiness." ▶

To see more of this beautiful home, use the free *viewa* app and scan this page.

**KITCHEN /** A black and white palette keeps things elegant in the kitchen. Benchtop in Carrara marble from European Marble. Subway tiles, Moorabbin Tile. Smeg stove, Appliances Online. Stools and replica pendant lights, Matt Blatt.
**DINING /** The forms in the photographic artwork at right match the angles in the dining chair backs. Photographs by Angus O'Callaghan.
**Designer buys:** Bamboo Carved dining chairs, from $380/each, Mahogany By Hand.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.



*A monochromatic palette unites the elements in this open-plan space.*



**MAIN BEDROOM /** Layers of texture add richness. Bedhead, BedNest. Artworks by Charles Blackman (left) and Geoffrey Ricardo. **Designer buy:** Chevron quilt in Orange, $260, Fenton & Fenton.
**BRIDGET'S ROOM /** Bridget sleeps in her mother's childhood bed. Wallpaper, Wallpaper Direct. Bedlinen, Adairs. Dog lamp, Surround Interiors. Artwork by J Fredrick.
**BATHROOM /** The dark ceiling was inspired by a project on *The Block*. Basin and tapware, Swan Street Sales. Wall tiles, Moorabbin Tile.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.



## THE LAYOUT




Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.




## *Reno notebook*

**Location** South-eastern Melbourne.
**Brief** To restore an Edwardian cottage while capturing maximum light.
**Outcome** A comfortable, easy home with elements both old and new.
**Save** Marilla and Sean used a draftsperson to draw up their plans. Sean also project-managed the renovation.
**Splurge** Lots of cabinetry.
**Favourite elements** Generous storage, from open shelving to dedicated storage space under the pitched roof.
**Lessons learnt** Tradies who offer the cheaper option aren't necessarily the right choice.
**Total cost** $300,000. H&G



***Dulux Wayward Grey***
bathroom ceiling

***Wattyl Woodland Grey***
exterior

***Dulux Ashville***
main bedroom

*'The dark ceiling gives the bathroom a cosy feel, with a little bit of drama.'* ***Marilla***

# DOUBLE *happiness*

Facing an empty nest, this ACT couple transformed their abode into a place where the family could come home to roost.

STORY & STYLING **KATE NIXON** / PHOTOGRAPHY **MAREE HOMER**



**ENTRANCE /** The steel-framed pergola was designed to provide a sturdy support for the wisteria as it matures. Landscape design by Ian Menzies, landscape construction by The Living Room.

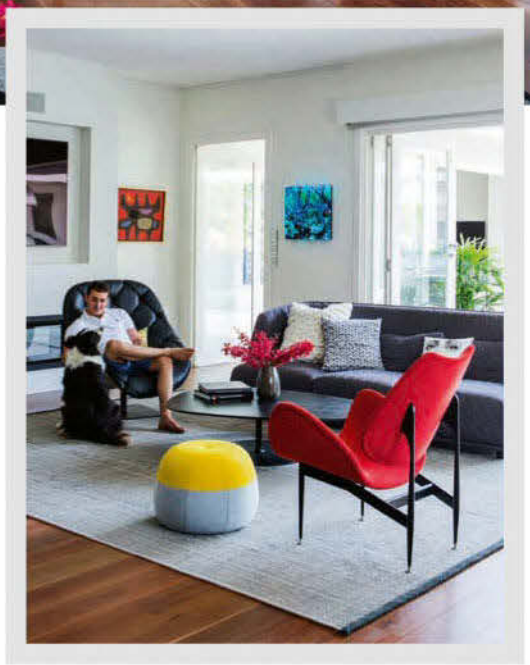
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.




## *This is the life*

"Even though the house has five bedrooms, it doesn't feel huge," says owner Belinda Kenyon. "We use it all – it's terrific! For our daughter Lucy's 18th birthday, we had all the family over for high tea on the front lawn and a party around the pool that night." Her husband David agrees: "We can entertain formally in the dining and living room or keep it casual and throw open the concertina doors for people to wander in and out. It's pretty functional like that".





As David Kenyon tells it, a scene from the Beatles' 1965 film *Help!* influenced the most recent renovation of his 1920s home in Canberra. "One of the opening scenes has the Beatles walking into these neat little mews houses with picket fences, and two ladies across the road are waving and saying 'Such lovely boys'. Then the camera pans inside to reveal dens of iniquity!" he says. "It was pretty corny, but the concept of preserving the outside while converting the interior stayed with me. I don't think [owning a period house means] one should be consigned to living in a museum."

David bought the house, designed by renowned architect firm Oakley & Parkes, in 1996 and he and his wife Belinda undertook the property's first major renovation in 2000. "Back then it was a tiny cottage with a 1950s addition and no aspect to the backyard," she says. "With our kids – Tom, Angus, Wil and Lucy – growing up, we needed more space so we doubled the size with an extension at the rear. That was fine for 10 to 12 years, but as they finished school and moved out of home, we questioned whether this was still the house for us."

After looking at other properties, the couple decided to stay put and tweak the house they loved. "We already had a single-level home in a great location with good ▶

KITCHEN / **top and opposite** "Jennifer Angelatos from Core Interiors helped us choose the tiles. They make a real statement," says Belinda. Axolotl Metal is used to enclose the Qasair rangehood as well as for the floating shelves and joinery highlights. Subway tiles in Black and in White, De Fazio Tiles & Stone. Pendant lights, Hamish & Grace. Stools, Kartell. **Smart buy:** Axolotl Metal in Bronze, from $440/m², Axolotl. LIVING / Wil and border collie Cato. Sofa, black armchair and coffee table, Hub Furniture Lighting Living. Featherston Scape (red) chair, Revival Antiques & 20th Century Design. Ottoman, Designcraft. Rug, Armadillo&Co. Artworks by John Coburn (left) and Fiona Hooton. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.




*'David and Belinda's diverse tastes allowed me to be adventurous with both materials and design elements.'*

*Karin McNamara, interior designer*

## THE PALETTE

***Dulux Whisper White***
interior, throughout

***Dulux Torere***
exterior walls

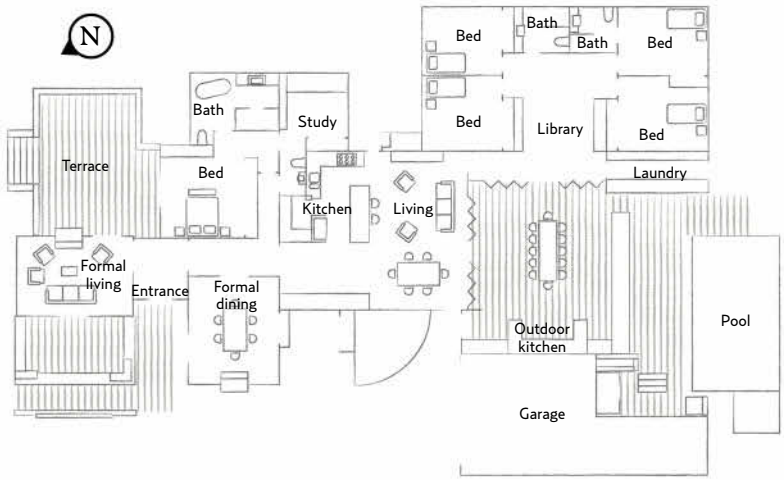
***Add a dash of***

***Bristol Albury***





## THE LAYOUT




Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.




**FORMAL LIVING /** "We wanted classic designs with a contemporary edge," says Belinda of the revamped Grant Featherston chairs. Featherston R160 (orange), B210H TV (blue) and R152 (grey) chairs, Revival Antiques & 20th Century Design. Artworks by Prue Hawke and Rusty Peters (over mantel). **DINING /** The restrained colour palette in the kitchen/dining area was inspired by the artworks of Emily Kame Kngwarreye. Dining table, MCM House. Saarinen Executive chairs, Dedece. **LIBRARY /** An antique armchair was revitalised with upholstery in Edit's Leaves fabric. Grug floor cushion, Jardan. Joinery by Braithwaite Innovative Joinery. **Designer buy:** Foscarini Fork floor lamp, $1920, Space.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

*'Design integrity was really important to us.'* Belinda

**BEDROOM /** Patterned fabrics are expertly blended. Bestlite lamp, Designcraft. Bedhead upholstered in Busatti Donna di Coppe, and ottoman in Busatti Kilimanjaro, both Lucy Strutt Design. Cushions and throw, Busatti. Carpet, Cavalier Bremworth.
**Designer buy:** Mannequin in Jewels fabric, $890, Edit.
**BATHROOM /** Luxurious Gregorio marble tiles from Sareen Stone are used for the floor and one wall of the ensuite. Bath, ACS Designer Bathrooms. Milano bath filler, Rogerseller.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.






## *Reno notebook*

**Location** Inner-city Canberra.
**Brief** Adapt a beloved home to changing family dynamics.
**Outcome** "The changes have allowed the block to be landscaped to its best advantage. Opening up the view from the living room to the back of the block was important," says David.
**Save** Two heirloom armchairs were refreshed with new upholstery. "Visitors are drawn to them," says Belinda. "It's a beautiful fabric and the cost was minimal."
**Splurge** The kitchen appliances. "They're a worthwhile investment."
**Favourite element** "The kitchen. It's exactly what I wanted," says Belinda.
**Lessons learnt** "Let go of preconceived ideas and ways of doing things. If you don't limit yourself early on, you can be creative without blowing your budget."

*'We thought it would be great to create something our children could come back to with their own families.' David*



neighbours. That's what we kept coming back to," says Belinda.

They engaged architect Steve Andrea and interior designer Karin McNamara to refurbish the kitchen and update the main bedroom. Once work commenced, however, their plans evolved into a complete overhaul. "The beautiful long vista down the main corridor was cut off near the kitchen, and the old part of the house was very dark," says Belinda. "We decided that if we were going to renovate, we should do it properly."

Heritage guidelines meant the footprint couldn't change, so Steve reorganised the internal spaces and external openings, says Belinda. "We wanted to retain the integrity of the home but make the connection between the cottage and the rear addition more seamless."

Taking the couple's extensive art collection as a starting point, Karin devised a palette of complementary materials. "David and Belinda's diverse furnishings and artworks dictated the need for interesting, textural materials," she says. Interior designer Lucy Strutt worked with Belinda on the furnishings. "Lucy had some brilliant suggestions for how to pull the spaces together," says Belinda.

The garden was of equal importance to the overall refresh, with landscape architect Ian Menzies and landscaper Brent McArthur working together to create inviting outdoor spaces. "In 2000, we installed the pool and turned the backyard into an entertaining area," says Belinda. In the latest round of works, new decking and pavers were added to complement a state-of-the-art outdoor kitchen. "The whole concept of both renovations, but in particular the most recent, was to support the way we live as a family," says David. "And this was, and always will be, our family home." H&G

***Architect: Steve Andrea Architecture, Griffith, ACT; (02) 6232 7199 or saarch.com.au. Interior designers: Karin McNamara Design, Deakin, ACT; (02) 6156 1051 or www.karinmcnamaradesign.com. Lucy Strutt Interior Design, Reid, ACT; 0421 245 576.***



**OUTDOOR ROOM /** David and Belinda enjoy a morning cuppa with border collies Ruby Tuesday (left) and Cato. The gas fireplace ensures the area is in use year-round. Dansk lounge chairs and side table, Cosh Living. Pizza oven, Zesti Woodfired Ovens. Polished-concrete benches. Lichen split-stone slate pavers, Eco Outdoor.
**Smart buy:** EF5000 outdoor gas fireplace, $6102, Escea.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

## FEATURE PLANTS

**FRONT GARDEN**
**Crepe myrtle (*Lagerstroemia* 'Tuscarora')**
***Wisteria floribunda* 'Shiro-noda'**
**POOL AREA**
**Coral bark maple (*Acer palmatum* 'Sango Kaku')**
***Buxus microphylla***




**LIVING /** Owner Alex Johnson with his daughter Willow in the open-plan area, which is framed with bifolds and flooded with light. Sofa, cushions and fabric armchair, Coco Republic. Throw, Bemboka. Rug, Cadrys. The flooring is brushbox with an oil finish. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.



# *The beauty* BENEATH

Heritage restrictions led to thinking outside – and under – the box in the expansion of this Sydney home.

STORY **SUNNY DE BRUYN** / STYLING **JUSTINE JOHNSON**
PHOTOGRAPHY **MAREE HOMER**



## *This is the life*

"Entertaining and cooking are important to us. The open-plan kitchen, dining, living and terrace areas allow for complete ease when guests and friends are over," says Alex. "The design complements our lifestyle." On an everyday level, Justine says that it's great for their 16-month-old daughter, Willow, to toddle around this space while she and Alex are working, cooking, relaxing and entertaining.

Working in the construction game, Alex Johnson has built and renovated countless houses for others. When on the lookout for a home for himself and his wife, Justine, in 2008, this semi-detached Victorian cottage in Sydney's inner eastern suburbs presented a wealth of possibilities, despite its neglected state. "It was a deceased estate and very unloved," says Alex. "But the potential was clearly visible."

The couple had hoped to add a second-storey extension at the rear of the house but, due to heritage and council restrictions, soon realised this was not going to be possible. So instead of going up, they went down.

This involved excavating a second level and making significant structural alterations. It was an enormous project that required clever thinking on the part of both Alex as builder and architect William Rothwell.

The project entailed demolishing the rear of the house and converting a small bedroom to a bathroom. Two other existing rooms at the front were retained as a bedroom and study. The ground-floor level was rebuilt and reconfigured as a large open-plan zone encompassing kitchen, living and dining areas, plus an outdoor terrace.

A light-filled staircase now leads down to the new level where the main bedroom, ensuite and laundry are situated, opening up onto a terraced undercroft with parking. ▶

**KITCHEN/DINING /** "We didn't erect a wall above the sink as it would have blocked off the stairs. Leaving it open makes the room feel larger," says Alex. Caesarstone benchtops in Snow. Ralph Lauren dining chairs, Coco Republic. Vera Wang Naturals bowl and vase (on table), Wedgwood. Artwork by Judith Johnson. **Designer buy:** Cannes dining table, $3595, Coco Republic.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.



*'We were able to install a 10m-long skylight with hardwood detailing.'* **Alex**



The owners may have gone underground to gain much-needed space but the truly surprising – and defining – feature of this home is that it is flooded with light. A 10m-long skylight running along the open-plan living area contributes to this, as do the floor-to-ceiling bifold doors framing the rear of the ground floor. The open staircase draws light into the below-ground level.

Justine, who works for furniture retailer and design studio Coco Republic, is passionate about interiors and describes the style of the home as 'rustic chic'. Its warm, welcoming ambience makes it the perfect place to share with the couple's 16-month-old daughter, Willow.

"We were able to match our interior construction with our furniture and styling," says Justine. "Alex loves stone, timber and steel, and this was the basis for the construction and finishing details. We also wanted to enhance some of the older features." They've achieved this in part by matching the original skirting and re-using all the internal doors within the new area.

"We also stripped the timber detailing back – and uncovered a treasure in the beautiful old timbers – but this is not for the faint-hearted," says Justine with a laugh. "It took us four years to complete!"

**The Building Guild, Rosebery, NSW; 0427 661 930 or thebuildingguild.com.**


BEFORE

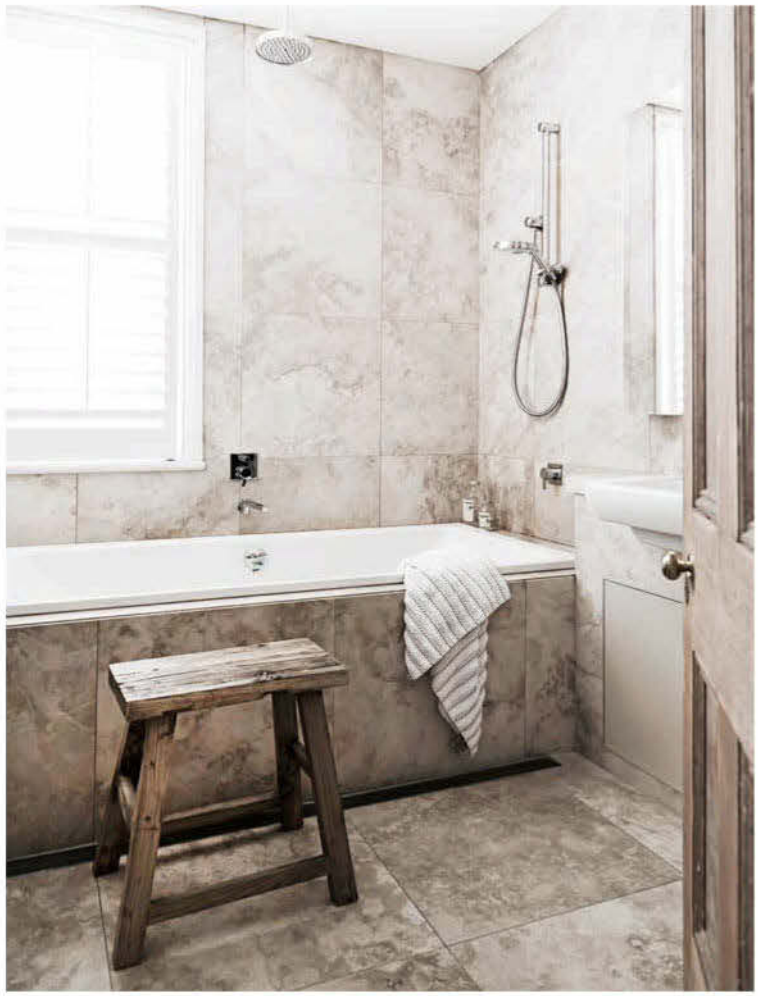
## *Reno notebook*

**Location** Sydney's inner eastern suburbs.
**Brief** To gain space and light, and open up the floor plan.
**Outcome** A new below-ground level plus an open-plan zone on the ground floor.
**Save** Alex built and managed the project himself through his construction company.
**Splurge** Spend that little bit extra on quality fixtures and fittings, particularly in the kitchen and bathrooms.
**Favourite elements** The sense of space and the abundance of natural light.
**Lessons learnt** Work with a good architect who shares your vision.
**Total cost** $600,000.

ENSUITE / "The frosted glass wall forms one side of the stairs to the basement and allows natural light to flood the basement ensuite," says Alex. Ensuite floor and benchtop are in limestone. Basins, Villeroy & Boch.
**Smart buy:** Vivid V7770 basin mixer, $195, Phoenix Tapware.
STAIRWELL / Cleverly defined volumes of space and glass permit free flow of light. Pendant lights, Orson & Blake. The chair is a family heirloom. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

## FEATURE PLANTS

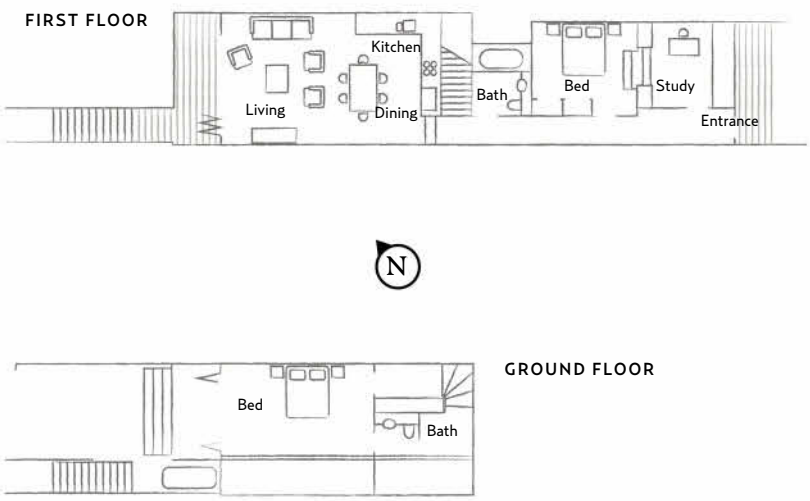
**FRONT GARDEN**
**Japanese box**
**(*Buxus microphylla*)**
**Pencil pines**
**(*Cupressus sempervirens*)**
**BACK GARDEN**
**English box**
**(*Buxus sempervirens*)**



**BATHROOM /** Large-format travertine tiles were used to establish a rich texture across the walls and floor. Basin, Villeroy & Boch. Taps, Phoenix Tapware. Towel, Espalma. **Smart buy:** For similar stool, try the Wooden Rectangular stool, $75, Domayne.
**FRONT DOOR /** Justine and Willow outside their transformed heritage home. Basket, The Bronte Tram.
**MAIN BEDROOM /** Despite its basement location, this room is gloriously light. Shuttered doors lead to a sandstone terrace. Throw, Ikea. Cushion, Coco Republic. Bedside lamp, Mondo Luce. Rug, Cadrys. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208. H&G



## THE LAYOUT




Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.

## THE PALETTE


*Dulux Antique White USA*
main bedroom
*Dulux Linseed*
exterior
*Haymes Paint Athens Grey*
kitchen, living, stairwell



**BACKYARD /** A magnificent lemon-scented gum shades the lawn. Outdoor sofa and armchair, Eco Outdoor.
**ENTRY /** Original stained glass contrasts with boldly modern lighting. Rina pendant light, Studio Italia. Rug, Halcyon Lake. The artwork was purchased in Chiang Mai, Thailand. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.







# *Status* UPDATE

Old and new, light and dark, private and social are deftly balanced in this heritage Melbourne home, reinvented as a sophisticated family haven.

STORY & STYLING **JULIA GREEN** / PHOTOGRAPHY **ARMELLE HABIB**

## *This is the life*

After a well-judged renovation, this home is zoned for harmonious family living. "We can use the study or sitting room as a retreat while the children use the family room or the swimming pool to entertain their friends," says one of the owners. Equally harmonious is the seamless merger between original and modern elements. "We love the feeling that the old home is still a presence in this contemporary, comfortable space."




**KITCHEN/DINING /** Frodo the Scottish fold appreciates the heated bluestone floor and cosy rug. Benchtop in Elba marble. Table and chairs, Mark Tuckey. Replica stools, Matt Blatt. Nola black pendant lights, Studio Italia. Rug, Halcyon Lake. Artworks by Gee from Tusk Gallery. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

*'The kitchen/living area is a favourite space. It's beautiful, comfortable and light, with lovely garden views.'* Owner





This Queen Anne-era property, in a tree-lined street in eastern Melbourne, was in near-original condition when the current owners purchased it in 2010. With three teens and four-legged friends to accommodate, the couple's need to renovate was pressing. They hired Geoff Challis of Venn Architects to modernise the home and deliver flexibility through multiple living zones.

From the outset, Geoff was careful to pay particular attention to the home's heritage overlay and period features, to enhance the 'old with new' feel requested by his clients.

"We wanted to give the house a sense of openness and light, so we started by creating a pavilion between the internal courtyard and rear garden, which feels like it's surrounded by outside space," says Geoff. With 5m soaring ceilings and clerestory windows offering views of sky and trees, the new space meets the light and space criteria beautifully. The windows track sun all day, making this a favourite spot to linger.

The contemporary kitchen offers a dramatic contrast to the garden views. Marble, dark-stained cabinetry and pale timber were chosen for their sophisticated yet natural qualities, while a butler's pantry was added to hide appliances and provide extra storage.



*'There's always a huge "Wow!" reaction to the clever design and beautiful finishes.'* Owner

## THE PALETTE

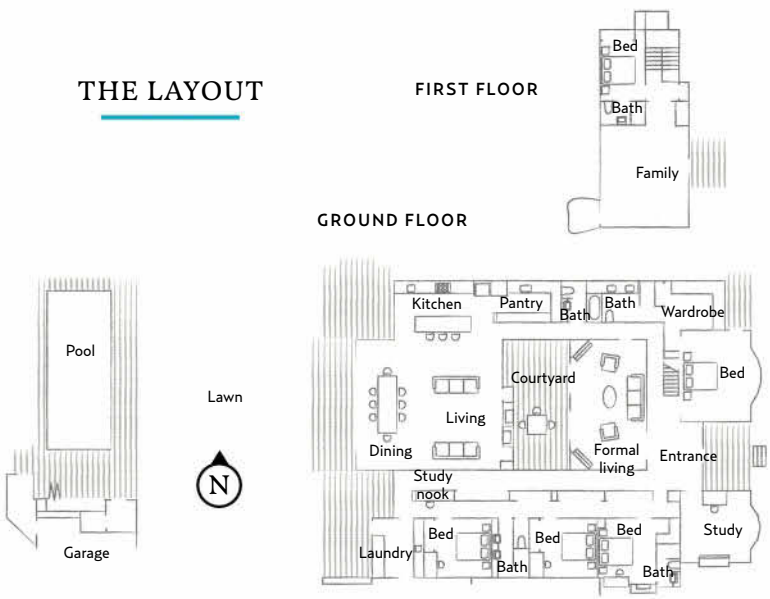
***Dulux Lexicon, half strength***
living, main bedroom

***Dulux Spanish Eyes***
formal living

***Add a dash of***

***Taubmans Mariner***

## THE LAYOUT



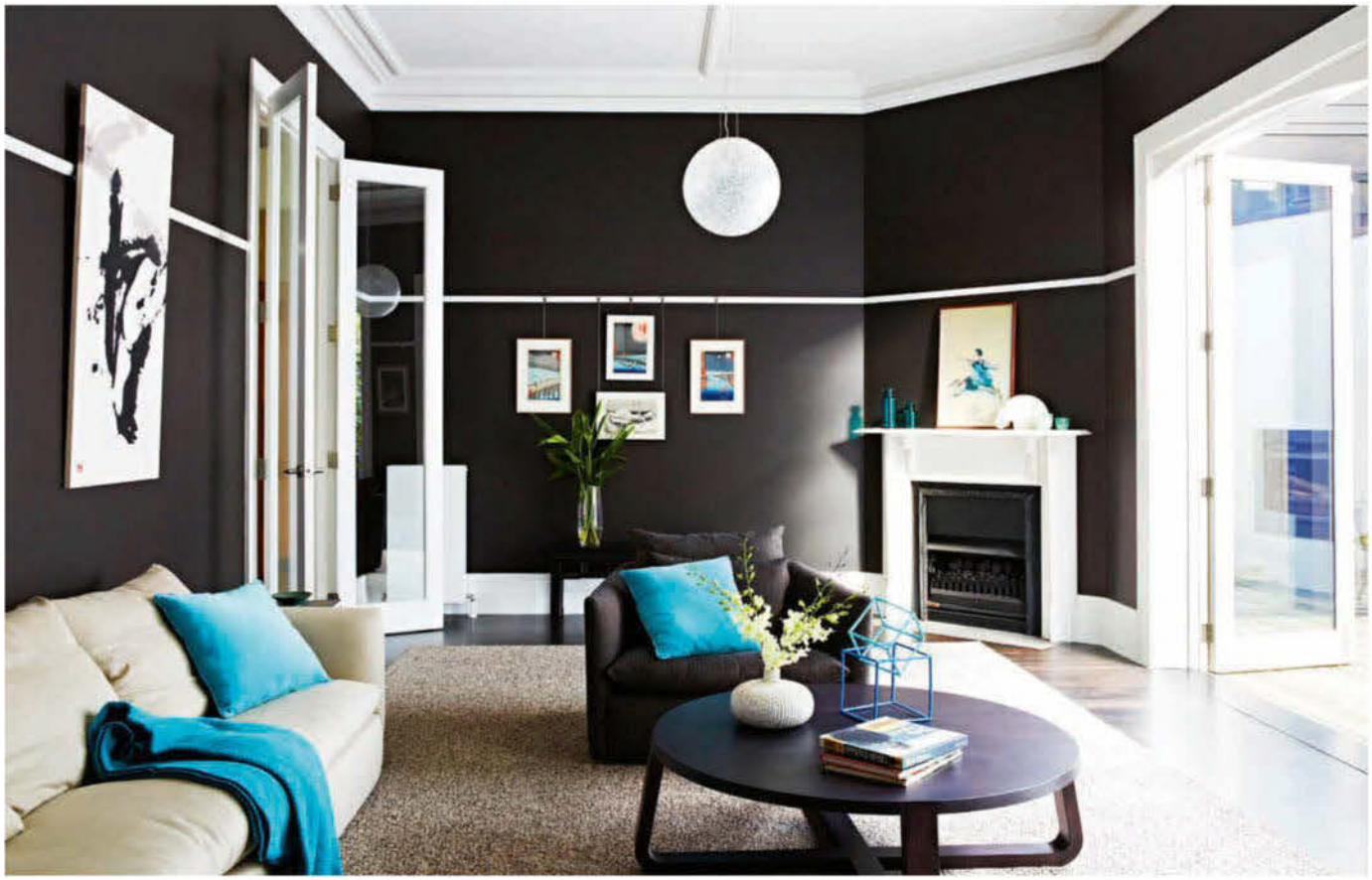



Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.

**MAIN BEDROOM /** Family photos and cherished antique pieces define a personal and private space. Armchair, Zuster. Blue throw, Freedom. Artwork by David Nona. **Smart buy:** Condo Plush carpet in Raven, from $64/m² (installed), Godfrey Hirst Carpets.
**LIVING /** In cold weather, a wood-burning fireplace is the focus of this family-oriented room. Sofa, Jardan. Coffee table, Zuster. Cushion, Marimekko. Bocci pendant lights, Hub Furniture Lighting Living.
**POWDER ROOM /** Blown-glass lights cast playful reflections in the mirror. Vanity, Laufen Pro. Tapware, Astra Walker. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

## FEATURE PLANTS

**BACK GARDEN**
**Lemon-scented gum**
**(*Corymbia citriodora*)**
**Peppercorn tree**
**(*Schinus molle*)**
**COURTYARD**
**Japanese maple**
**(*Acer palmatum*)**



◀ Bolstering the flexibility of the downstairs living space is a central internal courtyard that boasts an outdoor fire. "This has been a huge hit for all family members, whether seeking solitude or some time together," says Geoff. "Many a get-together has taken place under the night sky in the courtyard with the roaring fire."

In another clever design feature, a tall bank of cabinetry panelled in limed American oak runs along the east-west corridor. This conceals copious storage and hides the wing of teens' bedrooms and bathrooms, plus a study and laundry, from the main body of the home.

The young folk also enjoy a wonderful upstairs hideaway of their own under the original gabled roof and terracotta-tiled turrets. At any time you may find a group of teenage boys playing drums or watching a movie here. Equipped with a guest bed, this eyrie is comfortably removed from the parents' retreat downstairs.

A cohesive sense of style and comfort pervades the entire home, thanks to well-considered materials in an edited neutral palette. The family's journeys abroad have been referenced in specific pieces of art and furnishings, making this home a highly personalised space with sophisticated overtones. Enchanting gardens, a generous pool and a pool house complete the family's happiness with their 'keeper' home.

"All the zones work well for us," says one of the owners. "While we love spending time together, it's nice to know that we can also steal quiet moments when needed." **H&G**

**Venn Architects, South Melbourne, Victoria; (03) 9682 4222 or www.vennarchitects.com.**

*'Many a get-together has taken place under the night sky in the courtyard.'*






## *Reno notebook*

**Location** Inner eastern Melbourne.
**Brief** Living zones generous enough for a family, plus a kitchen/dining space that would work for entertaining as well as areas for adults and children to retreat to.
**Outcome** An updated home that retains its period charm.
**Save** The white tiles used in the bathroom were surprisingly inexpensive.
**Splurge** American oak panelling in the hallways was well worth it. The timber gives a lovely feeling of warmth to the home.
**Favourite element** The bright kitchen/living area with sliding doors offers true indoor-outdoor living.
**Lessons learnt** With clever design and considered use of materials, it's possible to modernise a home in an area with strict heritage regulations.

**COURTYARD /** A graceful Japanese maple emerges from the timber decking. The outdoor fireplace makes this a popular spot for relaxing and socialising in any season. **Designer buy:** Acapulco chair, $545, Amor Y Locura.
**FORMAL LIVING / opposite, top and bottom** Frodo has no complaints about comfort levels. Sofa and armchair, Jardan. Cushions, Freedom. Blue twig cubes, Crate Expectations. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.




# *View to* A THRILL

There was no shortage of challenges during the renovation of this Italianate terrace in Sydney's inner west, but perseverance has paid off handsomely.

STORY **RACHAEL BERNSTONE** / STYLING **ASHLEY PRATT**
PHOTOGRAPHY **JOHN PAUL URIZAR**



**POOL /** The eye-catching S-shaped roof caps off the modern rear addition. Outdoor setting, Urban Balcony. Pool tiles, Amber Tiles. Frameless-glass pool fence, Romano Glass Service. Pendant light bought online.
**PORTICO /** Homeowner Sarah Bice cuddles the family's Russian blue cat, Pushkin. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

## *This is the life*

The project took nearly two years to complete, and now, with different living zones – formal, informal and poolside – on three levels, this terrace offers plenty of room for the young family to grow. The home is also located a short walk from local schools and the sought-after suburb's bustling main street. "We love walking to our favourite cafe for cupcakes and coffee, and we can get everything we need nearby," says Sarah.




*'I had three distinct decorating paths – retro, organic and Chinese – and I found it hard to choose. Happily, we were able to combine them.'* Sarah



Serial renovators Sarah and Anthony Bice first admired this three-storey beauty in Sydney's inner west from a distance. They were living in London and contemplating a move back home when they spied it online, but decided against bidding from afar. As luck would have it, the terrace was passed in at auction, so when it was listed for sale again six months later, the Bices jumped at the opportunity to secure it.

"I went straight to the house when we got off the plane from London and I knew instantly that we had done the right thing," says Sarah, who lives here with Anthony and their children Ella, five, Daniel, three, and Louis, four months. "There was a jungle out the back and it was quite dark inside, but nothing that couldn't be fixed."

She engaged architect Daniel Boddam to create a modern addition at the rear in order to reinstate views while maintaining the integrity of the grand front rooms. The addition is topped by an S-shaped roof: an ingenious solution that was crucial to the preservation of a filigree balcony on the second bedroom upstairs. It also incorporates a row of skylights to flood the new living area with light. "The heritage department of the local council initially opposed it," says Daniel, "but the unusual roofline is the strength of the project. It's an interesting detail that brings a lot of light into the interior."

The unique roof also adds drama in the main bedroom, which has been moved to the rear of the house and extended. "Our room was originally the third – and smallest – bedroom, but we wanted it for the main as it had the best views," says Sarah. "Daniel had to work a bit ▶

**LIVING /** Sarah, Ella and Daniel enjoy some family time in the lovely and light ground-floor living room. The sofa is upholstered in Manuel Canovas Marius fabric in Carmin. Sisal rug, International Floorcoverings. Dining table, Exhibit Interiors. Arne Jacobsen dining chairs, Cult. Side table, Orient House. Artwork by Munchenan.
**Smart buy:** Gumball poufs, $110/each, Zanui.
**KITCHEN /** Appliances are integrated so the kitchen doesn't intrude upon the living area. Walnut-veneer joinery by Swagman Joinery. Caesarstone benchtop in Mink. Ilve stove. Perrin & Rowe mixer, Cass Brothers.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.





of magic to make it happen and now it's everything we wanted. It feels cosy and intimate, like a boutique hotel."

Sarah, a kitchen designer, generally takes a hands-on approach to renovating, but with Anthony travelling extensively for work and their young children to care for, she brought in Cameron Kimber to help resolve the interiors this time. "At first I wasn't sure it was going to work because Daniel, Cameron and I have such different tastes, but I made up some mood boards and they got my ideas straight away," she says.

The project hit a major snag when the foundations were found to be ironstone, not sandstone as expected. Further trouble arose with the landscaping. The original plans were designed around an existing gumtree, but the tree was damaged during construction and had to be removed. Then the new pool sprang a leak… With stress mounting and costs blowing out, Sarah called in Good Manors Pools + Gardens to redesign and complete the pool and garden works.

Despite the setbacks, Sarah and Anthony are delighted with the result. "I love it all," says Sarah. "It's very comfortable, with good airflow in summer and it stays warm in winter. The formal living room is fabulous, very peaceful, but I love our bedroom best of all because I can see the water from our bed."

It took some doing but this grand old house, and the view, is picture perfect once more. ▶

***Daniel Boddam Architecture & Interior Design, Potts Point, NSW; (02) 9660 1144 or danielboddam.com. Cameron Kimber Design, Woollahra, NSW; (02) 9388 0144 or www.cameronkimber.com.***

Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.



## THE PALETTE

***Dulux Natural White***
interior, throughout

***Dulux Legend Tan***
exterior, front

***Dulux Pendulum***
exterior, rear

**ELLA'S ROOM /** Birds are a recurring theme, popping up in different forms throughout the house. Window seat and yellow cushions in Sixhands Bonfire fabric in Canary. Stool, Domayne. Beds, Treehouse. Sisal flooring, International Floorcoverings. **Designer buy:** Schumacher Modern Nature A-Twitter wallpaper, $220/roll, Orient House.

**FORMAL DINING /** Sarah fell in love with an image of the Arctic Pear chandelier, finally tracking it down at UK retailer Ochre after six months of solid searching. Lamp, Cameron Kimber Design. Vintage dining table and chairs, Vampt Vintage Design. Curtains in Rapture & Wright Berbeck, Ascraft. Artwork by Roxanne Lillis.

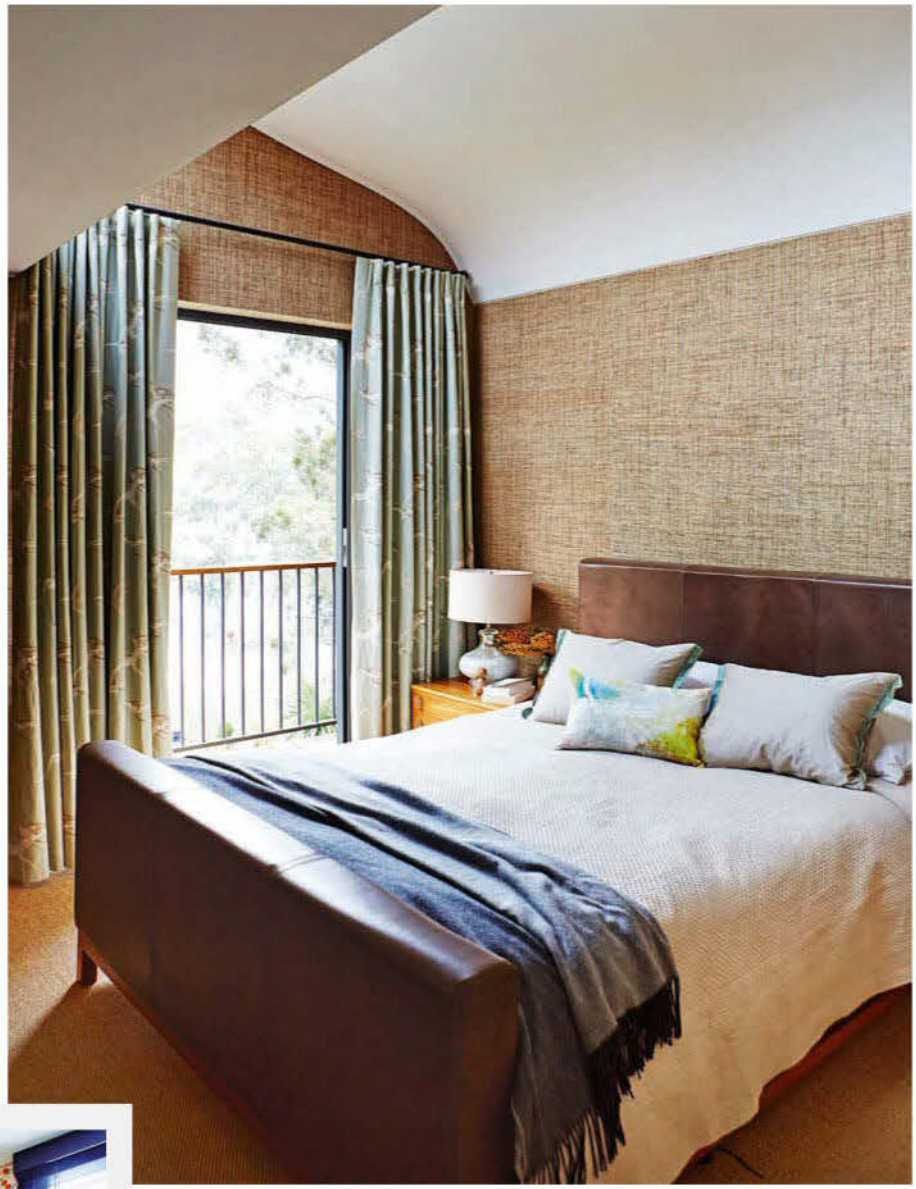
**FORMAL LIVING /** The 1960s G Plan Astro coffee table is a treasured piece the couple picked up in London. Artworks by Hiske (left) and Charley Harper. Rug, TibetSydney.

FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.



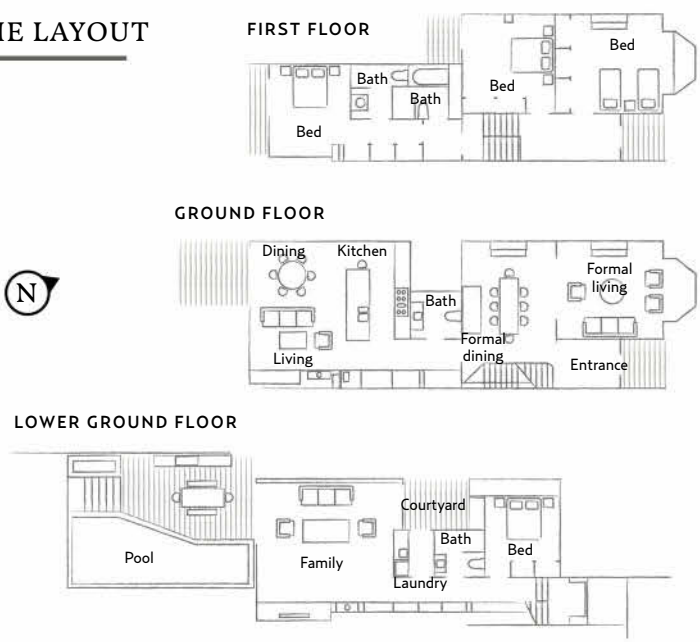

## *Reno notebook*

**Location** Sydney's inner west.
**Brief** Gain light, reinstate views and make the garden more family friendly.
**Outcome** A bright and modern family home that is respectful of its heritage.
**Save** "Buying our pendants online resulted in a significant saving," says Sarah.
**Splurge** The "exotic jewellery box" decor in the ground-floor bathroom.
**Favourite element** The dedicated coffee zone.
**Lessons learnt** "Many! The biggest one was to insist that a landscape architect be onboard from the beginning. It's vital in order to get the best integration of house and garden, as well as for the job to be priced realistically."





## THE LAYOUT





**EXTERIOR /** Sarah says that she and Anthony had always dreamed of living in a grand house like this one.
**BEDROOM /** The curved ceiling is a point of interest in the new main bedroom. Curtains in Sanderson Swallows, Domestic Textile Corporation. Phillip Jeffries Grey Island wallpaper, The Textile Company.
**Smart buy:** For similar bed, try Elson TV bed, $2499, Forty Winks.
**BATHROOM /** The mirrored wall amplifies the effect of the De Gournay Jardineres & Citrus Tree wallpaper from Milgate. Basin, Rogerseller. Vanity benchtop in Caesarstone Espresso. Floor tiles, Aeria Country Floors.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

FWA220/WL/HG

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# 60+ DELIGHTFUL GARDEN IDEAS

## Create a little magic in your garden with tips from a coterie of top Australian designers.

1 / Ian Barker, Ian Barker Gardens, Victoria. 2 / Paul Stein, Seed Landscape Design, Queensland. 3 / Peter Fudge, Peter Fudge Gardens, NSW. 4 / Janine Mendel, CultivArt Landscape Design, WA. 5 / Peta Donaldson, Natural Design, Victoria. 6 / Phillip Withers, Phillip Withers Landscape Design, Victoria. 7 / James Hayter, Oxigen Landscape Architects+Urban Designers, South Australia. 8 / Brent Reid, Candeo Design, Victoria. 9 / Scott Leung, Eckersley Garden Architecture, Victoria. 10 / Matt Cantwell, Secret Gardens, NSW. FOR CONTACT DETAILS, SEE PAGE 208.

Produced by Elizabeth Wilson. Leaf image from Alamy.



# 1

## COVER STAR

**EAGER TO TRANSFORM A FORGETTABLE FENCE OR PRETTY UP A PERGOLA POST IN RECORD TIME? FOR SOUTHERN CLIMES, MELBOURNE LANDSCAPE DESIGNER SCOTT LEUNG FAVOURS BOSTON IVY (*PARTHENOCISSUS TRICUSPIDATA*), SEEN HERE AS A SPECTACULAR FEATURE WALL: "IT'S QUICK-GROWING, DECIDUOUS AND SELF-ADHERING".**

Photograph from Getty Images (pagoda tree). Garden showcase by Natural Design from the 2014 Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show (opposite, top left).



**2 / Shade solutions**
Adelaide summers can be scorching, so planting for shade is all-important. Local landscape architect James Hayter's recommendations for shade-giving trees are:

- **Crepe myrtles** Perfect for a small garden, given their medium height and prolific flowering. I use both the white-flowering *Lagerstroemia indica* 'Natchez' [pictured above] and pink-flowering 'Sioux'.
- **Pagoda tree (*Sophora japonica*)** Larger than the crepe myrtle, this tree provides wonderful dappled shade. It's a focal point in our courtyard, we live under it summer and winter.
- **Turkey oak (*Quercus cerris*)** Too big for many gardens, but great if you have the space. It's utterly beautiful, with particularly spectacular autumn colour.

## 3 / IGNITE THE FLAMES

A flickering fire adds a special sparkle to soirees in the garden. "I absolutely adore fire. It provides warmth and an ambient glow that is so welcoming," says Melbourne garden designer Peta Donaldson. Her garden features a fireplace with traditional wood fire plus a portable fire pit fuelled by ethanol. "I love the romance of a crackling wood fire but the ethanol fire is more instantaneous, perfect for use in the courtyard."





***4** For a sculptural and eye-catching plant, Sydney landscape designer Peter Fudge recommends* **Furcraea foetida,** *an ornamental succulent with variegated, sword-like leaves that grow to 1.2m in length. "I love it," says Peter. "It grows in sun or shade and is very low-maintenance."*

## 5 / SMALL SPACE, BIG IDEAS

The key to making a small space work is to "think big", says landscape designer Peter Fudge. "Your aim is to create the illusion that the garden is larger than it really is. Use large pots, even if that means using fewer pots so the space remains uncluttered." Plant a small tree – perhaps a frangipani or an olive tree – in a large pot, underplant it with succulents and grow a creeper like *Dichondra* 'Silver Falls' (left) to spill over the edges.

**6 / Make a splash**
Water is a magical element in any garden design and can take many forms. "Even a simple, elliptical water bowl will bring reflections and movement to a corner of the garden. It also provides a water source for birdlife," says Peta Donaldson.

## FOUR OF A KIND... LANTERNS



**7** Lani **hurricane lamp,** $30, Emporium; (03) 9474 1300 or www.emporiumhome.com.au.



**8** Oak Base **hurricane lantern,** $50, Freedom; 1300 135 588 or www.freedom.com.au.



**9** Gem **lantern,** $80, Amalfi; (03) 9474 1300 or www.amalfihomewares.com.au.



**10** Glass **lantern** in Grey, $99, Top3 by Design; 1300 867 333 or www.top3.com.au.



## 11

## COURTYARD CREATIVE

With careful planning, you can gain huge rewards from small spaces. Perth-based landscape designer Janine Mendel specialises in small gardens and has published a book on the topic (*Urban Sanctuary,* Hardie Grant, $59.95). Here are her tips for successful courtyard design:

- Dedicate some space for furniture and utilities, and give the rest over to beauty: plants, water features and whatever entices you to sit outside.
- Choose furniture that's in scale with the space. Avoid bulky chairs: select designs with fine or recessed legs so you can see the ground beneath. This will make the area seem larger.
- Don't be afraid to fill the centre of the space with plants. Create zones with pockets of planting and you'll make a space that fills you with wonder.
- Use angles and curves when you compose the shape of the garden. This allows for multilayered planting and makes the garden more inviting.

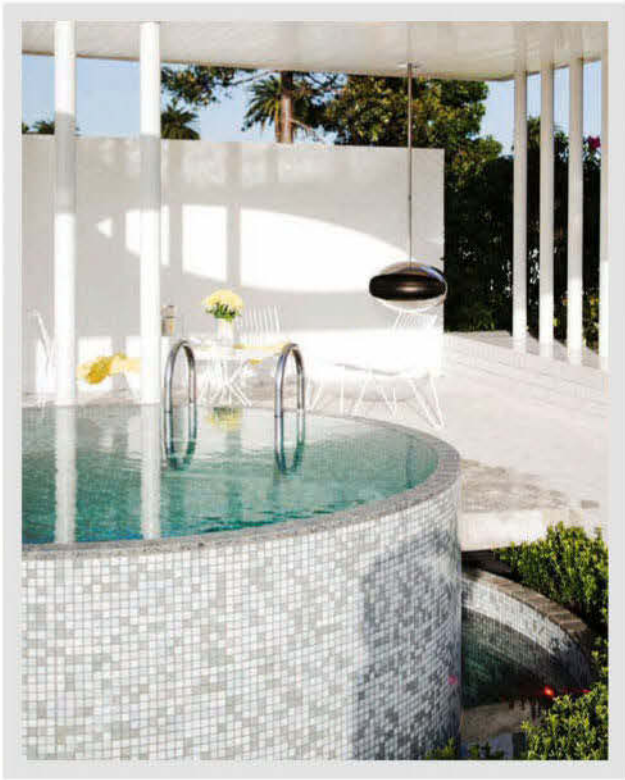


## 12 / STATEMENT PIECE

Every garden needs a focal point and for Queensland landscape architect Paul Stein, Parry's agave (*Agave parryi*) fulfils this role beautifully. With its bold and spiky leaves, it's a specimen that needs to be located thoughtfully. "It is absolutely stunning," says Paul. Grey-green in colour, it works well with native or coastal plants. "And it looks great when partnered with other succulents of various sizes: have a play with size and scale."

**13 / GO VERTICAL** Create a wall of green with the Jamie Durie Vertical Greenwall Blanket. Made from recycled PET, it can easily be attached to a fence by means of heavy-duty brass eyelets. Featuring pockets for plants, it's available in three sizes. Pictured is the large (180x180cm), $175, with 22 pockets and drip irrigation kit. Jamie Durie; (02) 9313 3200 or www.jamiedurie.com.





## 14 / POOL OF THOUGHT

A swimming pool is a hub for entertainment and social activity and serves as a large-scale water feature. "Lighting the pool is fundamental," says Peta Donaldson. "A pool glowing at night is enchanting and extends the depth of view from within the home," she says. "I also just love to sit and watch the rain fall on the surface of the water."

***15** Place a beautiful hanging planter in your courtyard or balcony, fill it with a pretty, tumbling plant and you'll instantly transform a space. This Moon Pot Armelle Rock (right) in Slate, $119, from Patterson+Steele, is a stunning example. 0417 133 776 or www.patersonandsteele.com.au.*





**16 / BAMBOOZLED** Creating privacy is at the top of clients' wish lists, says Sydney landscape designer Matt Cantwell. For screening, Matt loves slender weavers bamboo (*Bambusia textilis* 'Gracilis'). "Few plants perform like it in constrained spaces, but you need to be considerate to neighbours," he says, pointing to bamboo's propensity to drop leaves and grow to great heights.

**17 / DECKED OUT** Before you launch into re-staining your deck, check out Cabot's new Woodcare Solution app. Designed to help you select the right timbercare products for interior and exterior projects, it offers detailed product information, a trouble-shooting guide and a handy calculator to help estimate how much product you'll need for the job you're planning. Free from the App Store and Google Play.

Photograph from Alamy (agave), Chris Warnes (pool), Nicholas Watt (bamboo). Garden/pool layout by Natural Design from the 2014 Australian Garden Show Sydney.





*Helenium* 'Mahogany'



*Achillea* 'Terracotta'



## 19 / FOR ALL SEASONS

Planting the right combinations of species in the garden will ensure a graphic display at different times of the year. And we're not just talking about flowers: luscious foliage plants, grasses and budding or ageing perennials can all contribute their own pops of colour.

### FAB FOLIAGE PLANTS

Scott Leung recommends:

- **Leucadendron (*Leucadendron salignum*),** a dry-tolerant evergreen native with new red-blushed growth appearing in summer.
- **Portugal laurel (*Prunus lusitanica*),** a hedging evergreen shrub that puts out lime-green new growth and new stems in bright red in spring and autumn.
- **Silver vein creeper (*Parthenocissus henryana*),** a deciduous climber with purple new growth in spring and autumn.

### GORGEOUS GRASSES

Ian Barker recommends:

- **Reed grass *(Calamagrostis* 'Karl Foerster')** Following the flush of green growth, the seed head turns to a golden wheat colour, then a rusty brown by the end of winter.
- ***Miscanthus* 'Flamingo'** The feathery seed head turns from almost white to a charming shade of dusty pink as it ages.

### PERKY PERENNIALS

Ian Barker recommends:

- ***Helenium* 'Mahogany'** The early spring buds are lime green and the flowers turn out rusty orange. When the petals drop, the centres turn a dark, velvety brown.
- ***Achillea* 'Terracotta'** The soft lemon flowers age to terracotta and dark brown.
- ***Angelica gigas*** A strongly structural plant with rich burgundy-shaded flowers that age to a rusty brown colour.

*18 Nothing says 'pretty' like a bed of mixed perennials. Landscape designer Ian Barker names his top three as* Echinops *'Blue Globe' (right), a stunning plant with blue spheres that works with most colour combinations;* Agastache *'Sweet Lili', a long-flowering plant with soft spikes of apricot-tinged pink flowers; and* Pelargonium sidoides, *featuring sprays of tiny burgundy flowers with silver-green foliage.*



Photography from Alamy (*Echinops*).

# Save a sad fence.



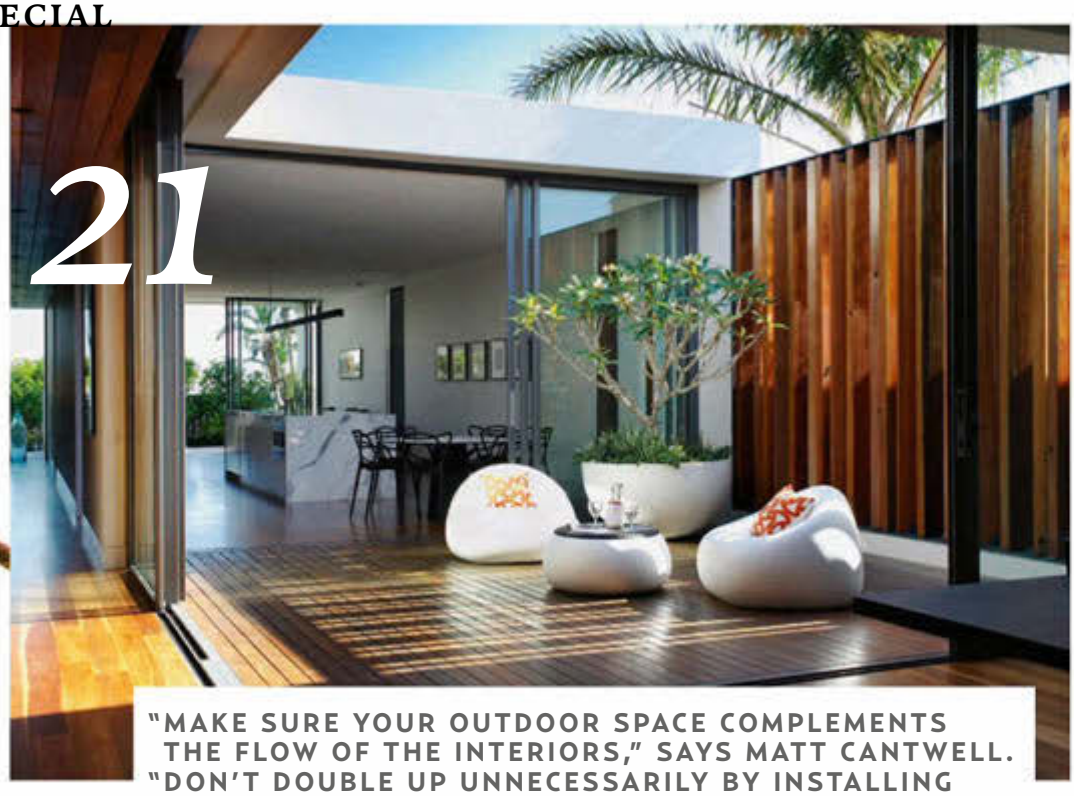

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# 21



**"MAKE SURE YOUR OUTDOOR SPACE COMPLEMENTS THE FLOW OF THE INTERIORS," SAYS MATT CANTWELL. "DON'T DOUBLE UP UNNECESSARILY BY INSTALLING TWO DINING TABLES ON EITHER SIDE OF A LARGE DOOR OPENING. HAVING A LOUNGE AREA OUTSIDE MIGHT BE A BETTER OPTION."**

**20 / Layered approach**
The key to creating a beautiful courtyard is multi-layered planting. "This gives depth and dimension to your space," says Janine Mendel. Simply layer plants in order of height. Here is her current hit list:



- Groundcovers: Native violets (*Viola hederacea*); blue chalk sticks (*Senecio mandraliscae*, above); *Eremophila glabra* 'Kalbarri Carpet'.
- Lower-level plants: *Nandina domestica* 'Flirt'; kangaroo paws (*Anigozanthos* species); *Dianella* 'Border Silver'.
- Mid-level shrubs: *Pittosporum tobira* 'Miss Muffet'; *Rhaphiolepis indica* 'Cosmic White' or 'Oriental Pearl'; *Westringia* species.
- Hedging/screening: Orange jessamine (*Murraya paniculata*); *Viburnum* 'Emerald Lustre'; *Leucospermum* 'Veldt Fire'.



**22 / LOVE LOCAL**
Growing native plants is a wonderful way to respect the natural assets of your garden's site, soils and aspect. For South Australia, James Hayter recommends:

- Groundcovers: *Grevillea* 'Poorinda Royal Mantle' (left, top) + *Goodenia varia* + (centre) + *Eremophila subteretifolia* + *Hardenbergia violacea* (bottom).
- Clumping plant: *Juncus kraussii.*
- Grass: *Wahlenbergia stricta.*
- Mid-level shrubs: *Thryptomene saxicola* 'F.C. Payne' + gold-dust wattle (*Acacia acinacea*).
- Screening plants: *Acacia glaucoptera* + cup gum (*Eucalyptus cosmophylla*). "It's my favourite eucalypt," says James.

**23 / New life**
Melbourne architect Lisa Breeze transformed a drab 4x4m inner-city courtyard into an uplifting space (below) by focusing on "surfaces that stimulate the senses". Large bluestone steppers and pebbles create a permeable groundcover while border screens are made from strips of silvertop ash. Plantings include clusters of succulents in large pots, with a Japanese maple providing the focal point.



**24 / EXTEND AN OLIVE BRANCH**
If you love silvery-grey tones in the garden, an olive tree will appeal. It can be espaliered against a wall or on a wire frame to create a divider, trimmed into hedge or grown as a compact tree. "It's a classic option that can look so modern," says Matt Cantwell.

Photography from Alamy (kangaroo paw), Getty Images (blue chalk sticks, *Thryptomene*, *Hardenbergia*).


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## A GARDEN JOURNEY

Create points of interest in your garden to entice people outside. This could take the form of a special tree, an oversized urn overflowing with climber tendrils or a sculptural piece. "Give the feature its own platform, whether that is a soft element, such as a groundcover, or a continuation of paving used elsewhere in the garden," says Peter Fudge, who also has these recommendations:

- Line the feature up with doors or windows so it can be seen from inside, making sure that the feature is balanced within the garden.
- Frame the feature with trees or *Buxus* spheres on each side.
- Create a screen behind your focal point to help highlight it.



**26 / STEP IN THYME**
Stepping stones and pavers look picturesque when spaced about 150mm apart, with a pretty groundcover planted in between. Peta Donaldon recommends creeping thyme (*Thymus serpyllum*, pictured): "An elegant groundcover, it also emits a fragrance when you brush past it."

27 / LANDSCAPE DESIGN MAESTRO JAMIE DURIE CALLS THEM "PEOPLE POCKETS": INVITING SPACES IN YOUR GARDEN WHERE PEOPLE WANT TO SPEND TIME. MAKE SURE YOU CREATE SEATING AREAS THAT ENCOURAGE VISITORS TO LINGER OUTDOORS, HUGGED BY PLANTS.



**28 / POINTED CONVERSATION**
With its ribs of golden-yellow spines, the aptly named golden barrel cactus (*Echinocactus grusonii*) has a commanding presence and is one of Matt Cantwell's favourite statement plants. "It stands out against other plants and looks great as a stand-alone in a large planter," he says. "It sparkles in the sun and is always a talking point."

## FOUR OF A KIND... OUTDOOR CHAIRS



**29** Applaro **outdoor chair** with armrests, $65, Ikea; (02) 8020 6641 or www.ikea.com.au.



**30** Golf handwoven **outdoor chair,** $229, Domayne; www.domayne.com.au.



**31** Thomas **outdoor chair,** $595, Cotswold Furniture Collection; 1800 677 047 or www.cotswoldfurniture.com.au.



**32** Seti **outdoor armchair,** $1020, Robert Plumb; (02) 9316 9066 or www.robertplumb.com.au.

Photography by Dan Magree/bauersyndication.com.au (garden), Aramy (creeping thyme), Getty Images (cactus).

## FOUR OF A KIND... PLANTERS



**33** Coco **planter** with two pots, $69, Down That Little Lane; downthatlittlelane.com.



**34** Urban Garden **self-watering planter,** $199, Glowpear; www.glowpear.com.



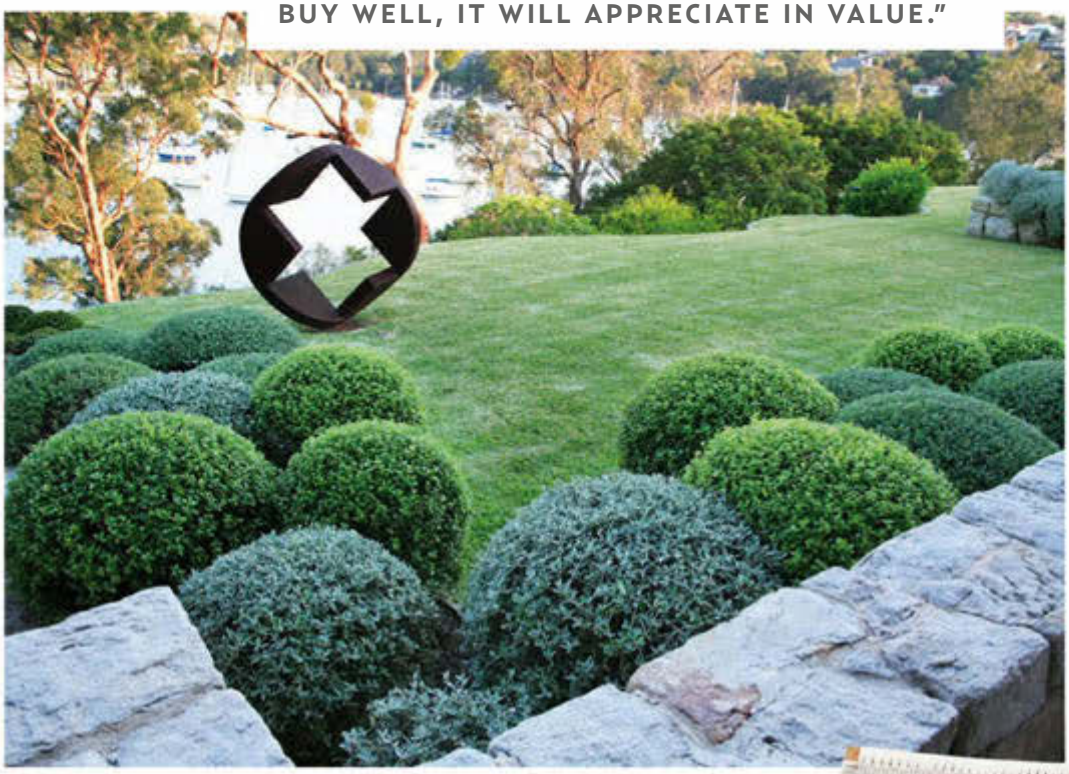
**35** Coral **planters,** from $720, ANONandCo; (07) 3839 0400 or www.anonandco.com.



**36** DeCastelli Screen Pot 1 **planter,** from $1650; (02) 9693 2288 or www.hgfs.com.au.

# 37

**"I LOVE SCULPTURE IN THE GARDEN. IT LEAVES A LASTING IMPRESSION ON THE VISITOR," SAYS MATT CANTWELL, WHO RECOMMENDS WORKS IN STONE OR STEEL. "STRETCH YOUR BUDGET AND COMMISSION A PIECE IF YOU CAN. YOU'LL HAVE IT FOR LIFE, TAKE IT WHEREVER YOU LIVE AND, IF YOU BUY WELL, IT WILL APPRECIATE IN VALUE."**



### 38 / MAGNETIC POWERS

If you keep hard surfaces to a minimum and make your garden a soft, textured, fragrant place heaving with plants, you can create a magical space for yourself and your guests. "We find that creating a garden full of plantlife makes people want to go outside to look, touch, smell and connect with nature," says Ian Barker.



**39 / TAKE A SEAT** With its enticing combination of teak and synthetic wicker weave, the Barwon easy chair, $699, offers a very civilised vantage point from which to observe and soak up your garden. Eco Outdoor; 1300 131 413 or www.ecooutdoor.com.au.



**40 / Little wonders** Succulents are renowned as hardy, drought-tolerant, year-round beauties. Melbourne landscape designer Phillip Withers used a stunning mass planting of them to achieve the effect of a coral reef as a centrepiece to his show garden, My Island Home, at the 2014 Australian Garden Show (pictured at left). To create this textured tapestry, he combined rounded, spiky, and frilled forms in a range of colours. "All these plants will grow well in poor, sandy soils that have good drainage, and they won't need watering," says Phillip. Species shown here include *Echeveria* 'Blue Curls' and 'Violet Queen', *Sedum* 'Gold Mound' and *Crassula* 'Living Coral'.

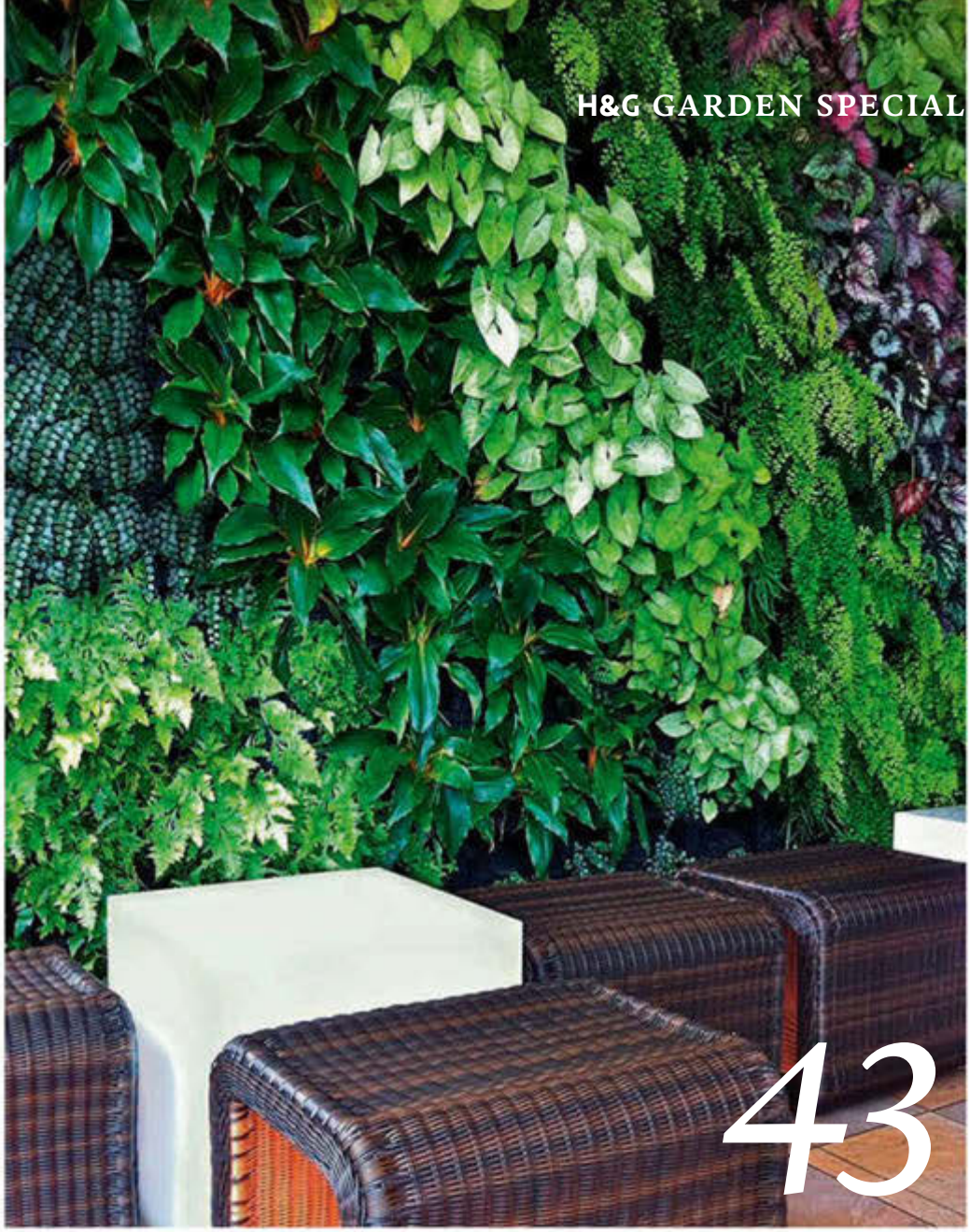
**41 / Surreal appeal**
Lush and luxurious, *Zoysia tenuifolia* is a sun and semi-shade loving, fine-textured groundcover. "Every time I see it I want to roll in it!" says Matt Cantwell, who uses it between pavers to soften hardscaping.



**42 / Painting a picture**
Contrasting foliage colour is important in weaving the tapestry of a garden. Scott Leung loves using purple-leafed species for points of contrast: "They are less dominating than variegated species". His top recommendations are:



- Labrador violet (*Viola labradorica,* above): a purple-tinted green groundcover with mauve flowers that self-seeds to form a fab carpet in semi- and fully shaded areas.
- Holly tea olive (*Osmanthus heterophyllus* 'Purpureus'): a tough hedging shrub with a purple serrated leaf.
- Black mondo grass (*Ophiopogon planiscapus* 'Nigrescens'): a near-black deep purple that looks great en masse as a dark contrast to greens and colour.




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**44 / DESIGN CUES** Look to the architecture of your home when seeking cues for your garden design. "It's all about establishing the right aesthetic to best enhance the home, and not hiding nor detracting from it, unless required," says Peta Donaldson. "I focus on the style and materials used within the building itself, looking at colour, texture and shape, and then incorporate this palette into the garden through the choice of plants and hardscaping."

**45 / SHADY CHARACTER**
For a deciduous tree that will provide you with gorgeous colour plus shade in summer, it's hard to go past the magnificent *Jacaranda mimosifolia,* says Scott Leung, providing you have sufficient space. "It's a beautiful, medium-sized tree with sculptural branches and amazing flower colour."

Photography by Nicholas Watt (lawn), Chris Warnes (succulents).

## FOUR OF A KIND... COMPOSTING SYSTEMS



**46** Roto Twin 140L **composter,** $119, Composting Home; www.compostinghome.com.au.



**47** Bokashi One 30L **bucket,** $149, Bokashi Composting Australia; 1300 902 880 or www.bokashi.com.au.



**48** Aerobin 200L **composting system,** $198, Masters Home Improvement; 1300 337 707 or www.masters.com.au.



**49** Maze 230L **compost tumbler,** $199, Bunnings; (03) 8331 9777 or www.bunnings.com.au.

### 50 / NATIVE BEAUTY

"The colours, textures and smells of Australian natives against a blue sky is something that continually amazes me," says James Hayter. For a favourite native, James nominates *Acacia acinacea*, a fast-growing, frost- and drought-tolerant flowering shrub. "It's one of the most beautiful wattles, flowering prolifically in winter. It works well with the lower-growing *Callistemon* and with *Hardenbergia*. It's a spectacular plant."





***51** For a tough and lovely evergreen foliage plant, Scott Leung loves* **Lomandra longifolia** *'Tanika', a fine-leaf form of mat rush. "It's an indestructible strappy-leaf plant. Mass-planted, it forms a knee-high soft groundcover, and you can plant clumps of perennials within it to provide seasonal change."*



**52 / BALCONY BEAUTY** With the rise of high-density living, balcony gardens have become a survival tactic for garden-loving city dwellers. A clever way to combine greenery and entertaining is to install a bench bar. The balcony garden above, designed by Kim Earl from Melbourne's Candeo Design, features a merbau bench and a cityscape mural. Soft, strappy plants include *Aspidistra, Chamaedorea, Dypsis lutescens, Liriope* 'Evergreen Giant' and *Philodendron* 'Rojo Congo'.



**53 / Sold on stone**

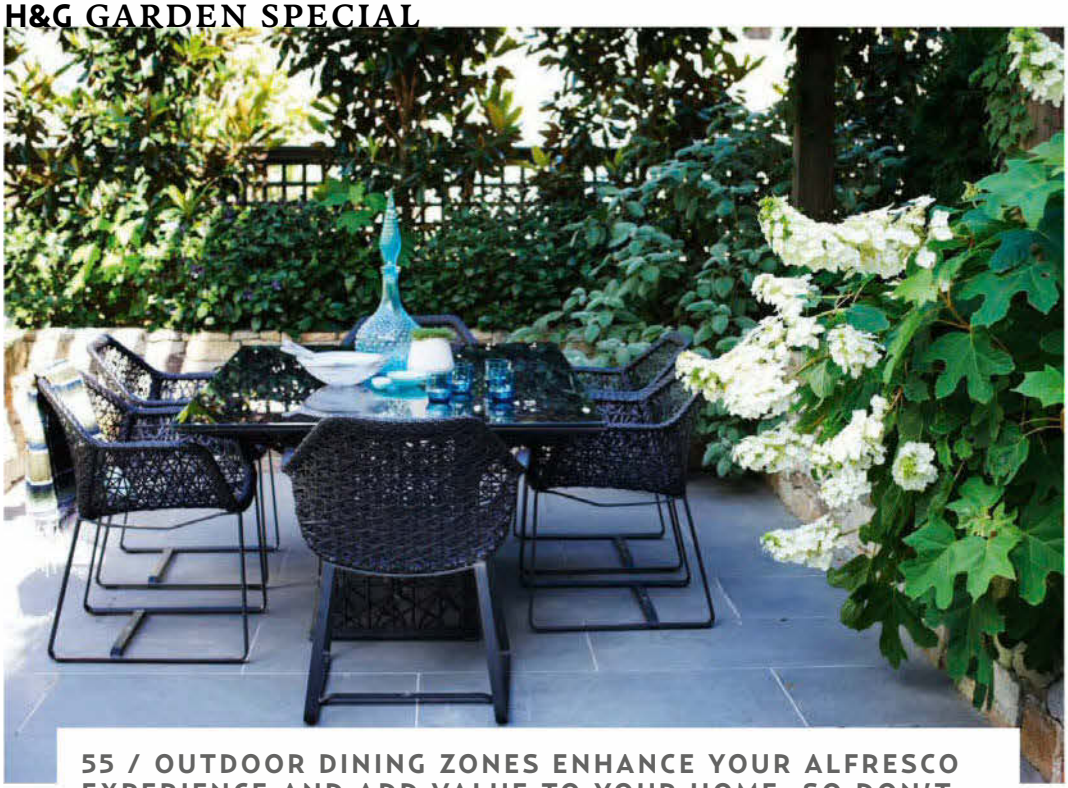
Stone is a lovely landscaping material to use in and around the garden, favoured by designers for the way it eases into the landscape. "We use stone a lot for walls and floors. It can be clean and smooth or rough and textured," says Matt Cantwell. Scott Leung concurs: "Natural stone is magical. It's a classic material that, if used correctly, will not date and will last a lifetime".

Photography from Getty Images (wattle), Chris Warnes (pergola).



## SENSE OF SANCTUARY

Your garden should be a hideaway, a place where you can relax in private, removed from the hum of work and everyday life, says Melbourne landscape designer Brent Reid of Candeo Design. This was the underlying theme of his Cache garden (left) at the 2014 Australian Garden Show Sydney. To reinforce the idea of the garden as a sanctuary, Brent designed a pergola made from welded steel strips. "I love an open pergola. This arched form encloses you protectively and gives you a sense that the garden is hugging you." Custom-fabricated using $900 worth of steel, it's a structure that could easily be replicated in a home garden. "Perfect with a climber trailing over it. *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* [Virginia creeper] is one of my favourites to use in Melbourne," says Brent. ▶



**55 / OUTDOOR DINING ZONES ENHANCE YOUR ALFRESCO EXPERIENCE AND ADD VALUE TO YOUR HOME, SO DON'T SKIMP ON THE SIZE OF YOUR SPACE. MATT CANTWELL SUGGESTS A MINIMUM AREA OF 4X6M. "GUESTS NEED TO BE ABLE TO FINISH A MEAL, PUSH THEIR CHAIR BACK FROM THE TABLE AND STILL HAVE ROOM TO CIRCULATE."**



**56 / On the waterside**
Maximise the visual impact of water features by surrounding them with swaying grasses or dramatic forms of plantlife. "A lotus (*Nelumbo*) will transform a bowl of water into a lovely feature," says Paul Stein. "My favourite reed is knobby club-rush (*Isolepis nodosa*), with its beautiful weeping form."



**57 / OLDIES BUT GOODIES**
Some might call them 'nanna plants' but those old-fashioned species your grandma tended on her patio are enjoying a comeback. Rightly so, says Scott Leung, because they're tough and resilient, easy to grow and often simple to propagate. "For myself, I don't think they have ever been out of fashion," says Scott. His top picks are: swiss cheese plant (*Monstera deliciosa,* right); lacy tree philodendron (*Philodendron selloum*); Japanese aralia (*Fatsia japonica*); peppermint-scented geranium (*Pelargonium tomentosum*) and jade plant (*Crassula ovata*).

**58 / Cutting time**
The compact electric Husqvarna 305 Automower, $1999, can trim lawns of up to 500m² by itself. It redirects itself when it detects an obstacle and returns to its docking station to recharge. www.husqvarna.com/au/home.



**59 / Northern lights**
Warmth, humidity and high rainfall make it easy to grow a garden in the subtropics. Paul Stein nominates five plants for these conditions:



- **Native violet (*Viola hederacea*, above)** A pretty, shade-loving groundcover.
- **Purple ginger (*Alpinia* 'Red Back')** A tall screening plant perfect for narrow spaces.
- **Bromeliad (*Alcantarea imperialis* 'Rubra')** A beautiful feature plant.
- ***Lomandra* 'Tilga'** A 400mm high grass for middle-tier planting.
- **Tuckeroo (*Cupaniopsis anacardioides*)** A native, fast-growing small-to-medium tree. Its lollipop shape makes it a perfect shade-giver.

Photography by Nicholas Watt (dining set), Alamy (lotus, swiss cheese plant).



# 60

## MEN OF STEEL

When selecting landscaping materials, steel and wire win hands-down for Scott Leung and Myles Broad, principal designers at Eckersley Garden Architecture. "Steel and wire are so versatile. We use them for pergolas, screening, edging, fences, letterboxes, fire pits... anything really," says Scott. They coat all steel forms in a micacious iron oxide, which is dark charcoal grey in colour. "The dark steel highlights the green foliage and has a greater longevity than timber forms. Steel also looks amazing in combination with natural timber, especially decking."

**61 / LITTLE BEAUTY**

Looking for a reliable, delightful shrub that will look great either as a single specimen or planted en masse as a hedge? *Rhaphiolepis* 'Snow Maiden' (Indian hawthorn) is an evergreen shrub that offers a display of dark, glossy leaves and pretty white flowers in winter and spring months. It's a plant that Peta Donaldson uses in most of the gardens she designs. "It's tough, drought-, sun- and salt-tolerant, and so textural I never tire of looking at it," she says. "It provides a stunning organic hedge without the necessity of clipping."



**62 / Light my way**

Lead guests up the garden path in high style with this elegantly configured halogen light. Harbour 12V Apex pathlight in Copper, $109, Beacon Lighting; 1300 232 266 or www.beaconlighting.com.au.

## FOUR OF A KIND... OUTDOOR CUSHIONS



**63** Anais Light **outdoor cushion,** $85, Zanui; 1300 668 317 or www.zanui.com.au.



**64** Kolsan **outdoor cushion,** $30, Kas Australia; (02) 8035 2248 or www.kasaustralia.com.au.

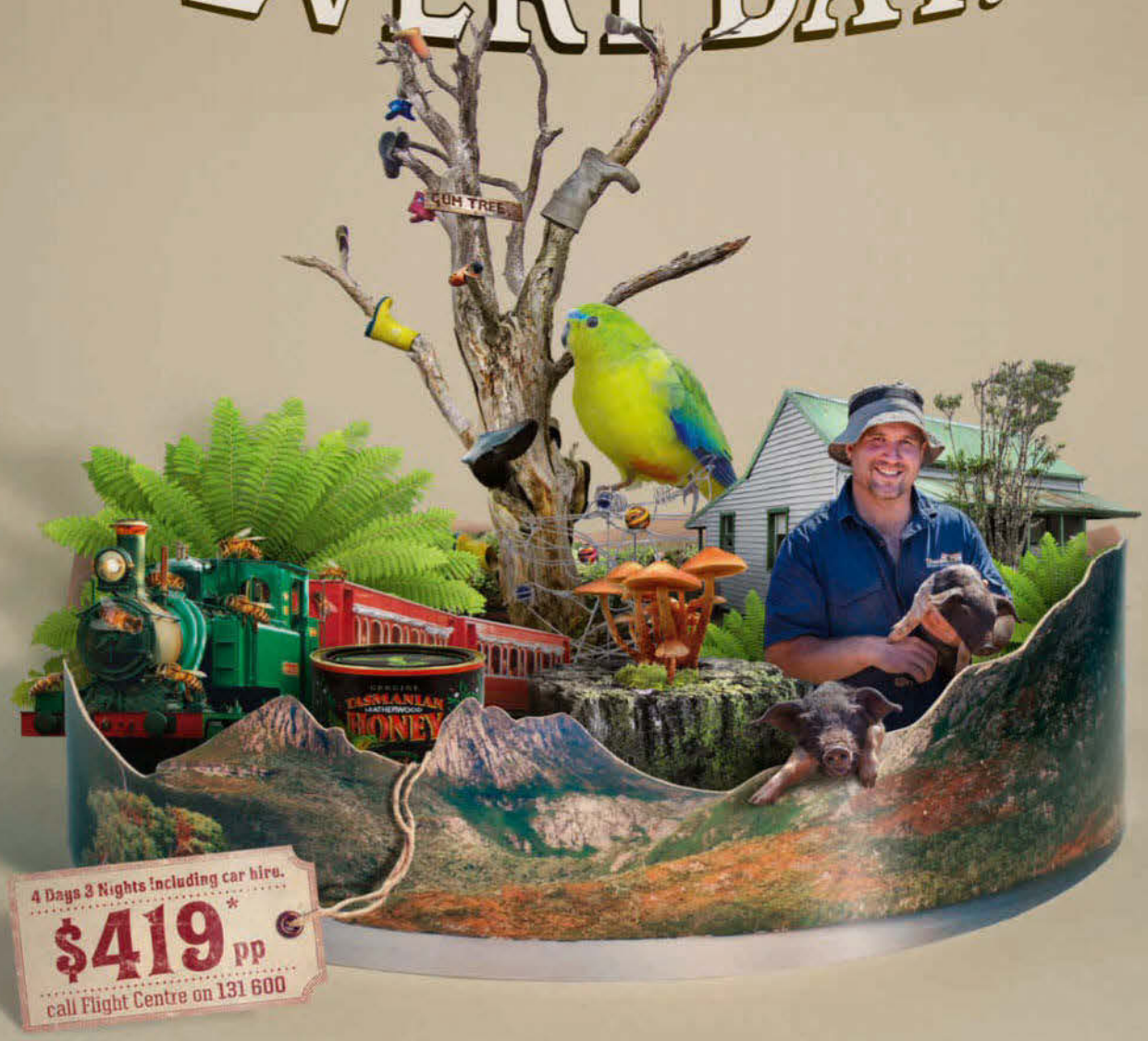


**65** Girl From Ipanema **outdoor cushion,** $120, Hello & Behold; 0416 630 916 or www.helloandbehold.com.



**66** Arabesque **outdoor cushion,** $120, Eco Chic; 1300 897 715 or www.ecochic.com.au. **H&G**

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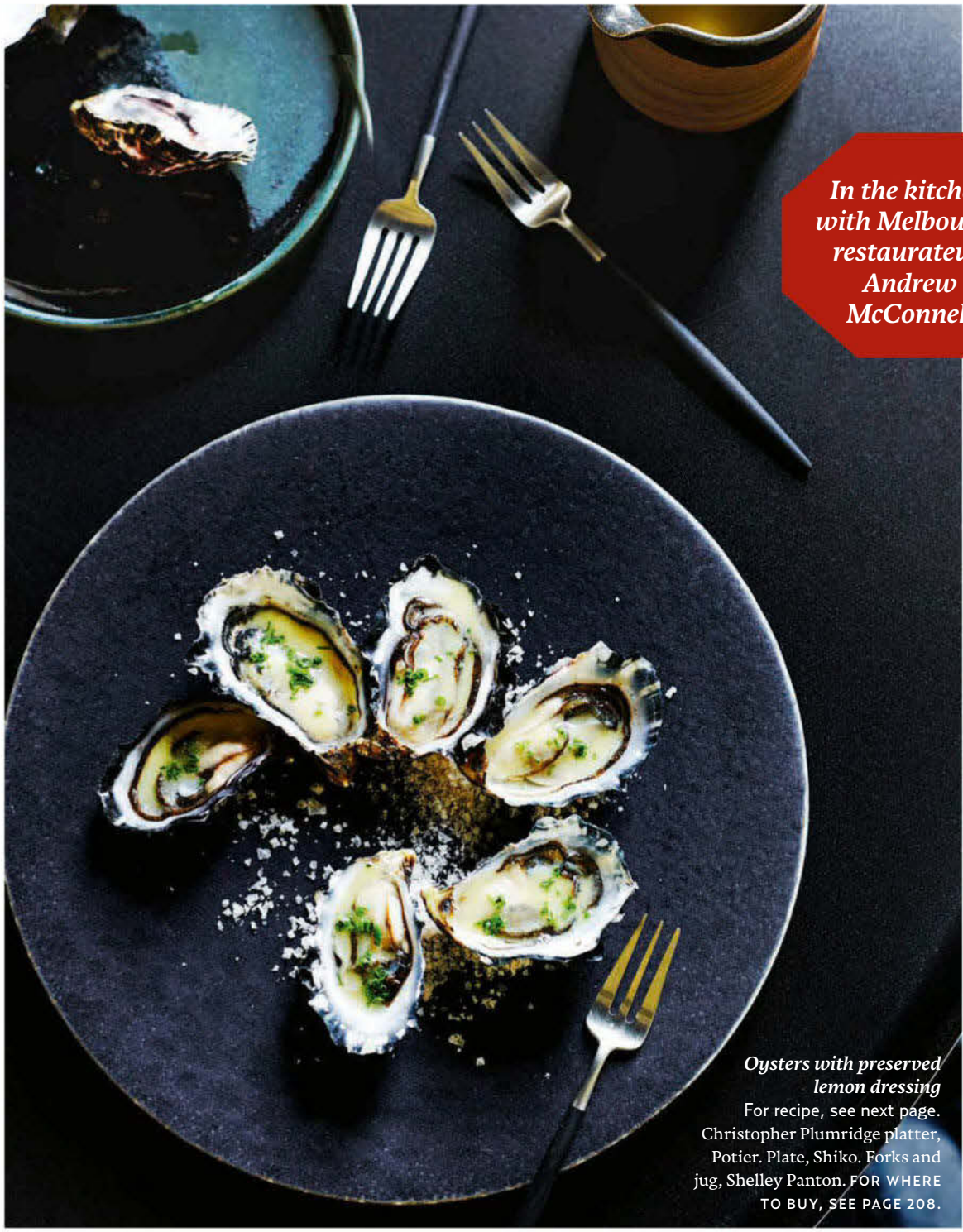
**Find more behind the scenery stories at GOBEHINDTHESCENERY.COM.AU**

*Package includes 3 days pre-booked Innkeepers Hotels Pass and 4 days economy car hire. Valid for travel 1 May – 31 Aug 2015. Terms and conditions apply. Please note this pass must be pre-booked. Valid for sale 22 Jan - 31 July 2015.

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Tasmania
GO BEHIND THE SCENERY



*In the kitchen with Melbourne restaurateur, Andrew McConnell*

***Oysters with preserved lemon dressing***
For recipe, see next page. Christopher Plumridge platter, Potier. Plate, Shiko. Forks and jug, Shelley Panton. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

Styling by Lee Blaylock. Photograph by Mark Roper.

# LIVING

ENTERTAINING / DRINKS / SMALL BITES / TRAVEL / HEALTH / BEAUTY

ENTERTAINING

# AUTUMN DINING

As one of Australia's top chefs, **Andrew McConnell** knows a thing or two about timing. Each dish in this menu can be prepared ahead or cooked in less than an hour, leaving you plenty of time to chat with guests.

With big-name Melbourne restaurants including Cutler & Co, Cumulus Inc and the new Supernormal to wrangle, chef Andrew McConnell spends plenty of time in the kitchen. So when at home, the father of three takes a relaxed approach to cooking. "I want time to socialise too. I really enjoy having family and friends around and cooking for five or 10 people as opposed to 100," says Andrew, who's recently revamped the kitchen in his new family home. Painted in a moody palette, it's a handsome backdrop for fine food.

Andrew is always seeking new ways to satisfy his guests and his latest find is Saint David Dairy, a micro dairy in Fitzroy that has inspired him to churn his own butter. "It's arresting when you sit down to a meal and eat butter churned that afternoon," says Andrew. "The first and last things are what people often remember."

***Cutler & Co; cutlerandco.com.au.***

## Oysters with preserved lemon dressing

***Prep: 15 mins. Serves 6.***

Deseed **¼ large preserved lemon;** soak in water for 2–3mins to remove excess salt. Place preserved lemon in a blender with **1 tbsp chardonnay vinegar** and **⅓ cup (80ml) verjuice;** blend to a puree. With motor running, add **⅓ cup (80ml) grapeseed oil** in a thin steady stream until emulsified. Set aside. Arrange **18 freshly shucked oysters** on a bed of rock salt. Spoon 1 tsp of dressing over each oyster and garnish with **1 tbsp chopped chives.**

### ON THE MENU

I bought a cold-press juicer last year and I've been experimenting with different herb juices. I've added sorrel to my escabesche recipe, which brings in a bit of sourness. It's traditionally made from vinegar and lots of oil; the sorrel and parsley juice really freshens it up.



## Sardine & mussel escabeche with sorrel juice & olive oil

***Prep: 30 mins + cooling + 1 hr marinating. Cooking: 15 mins. Serves 6.***

**⅓ cup (80ml) olive oil, plus extra for brushing**
**2 golden shallots, finely chopped**
**½ carrot, finely chopped**
**½ tsp coriander seeds, crushed in a mortar**
**Pinch cumin seeds**
**½ star anise**
**Pinch saffron threads**
**1½ tbsp lemon juice**
**1 tbsp chardonnay vinegar**
**¼ cup (60ml) cold-pressed sorrel and parsley juice (alternatively, grind fresh sorrel and parsley in a mortar and pestle)**
**1kg mussels, cleaned**
**12 sardine fillets**
**½ loaf day-old baguette, sliced on the diagonal**
**1 tbsp chopped fresh parsley and/or fennel tops**

**1 /** To make escabeche, place ⅓ cup olive oil, shallots, carrot, coriander, cumin, star anise and saffron in a frypan over medium heat until shallots and carrot are soft, about 5mins. Remove from heat and set aside to cool (this can be made a day ahead). When ready to use, add vinegar and sorrel and parsley juice.

**2 /** In a large saucepan with a tight-fitting lid, bring 1 cup (250ml) water to a simmer. Add mussels and steam, covered, until shells open, about 3mins. Remove with a slotted spoon and add to escabeche; discard any unopened mussels.

**3 /** Place sardine fillets, skin-side down, in a non-stick frypan over high heat. Fry until skin is brown but fillet is not cooked through (do not turn), then remove to a plate or ceramic baking dish. Pour escabeche and mussels over sardines and set aside to marinate for 1hr before serving.

**4 /** To serve, toast bread until golden then brush with olive oil. Arrange toast in serving bowls with escabeche on top, spooning juices over. Garnish with chopped parsley or fennel tops.

**Plate,** Wingnut & Co. Fork, Shelley Panton. **OPPOSITE /** Chef and restaurateur, Andrew McConnell.
FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.



Text by Alaana Cobon. Styling by Lee Blaylock. Photography by Mark Roper.

## Roast rack of veal

***Prep: 20 mins. Cooking: 30 mins. Serves 6.***

**1kg rolled rack of veal, frenched and trussed (ask your butcher to do this for you)**
**¼ cup (60ml) vegetable oil**
**4 sprigs fresh thyme**
**2 tbsp salted capers, rinsed and drained**
**2 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil**
**Lemon wedges, to serve**

**1 /** Preheat oven to 170˚C (150˚C fan). Season veal generously with salt and pepper.
**2 /** Heat 2 tbsp vegetable oil in a heavy-based frypan over high heat. Brown veal on all sides, then place in a roasting tray. Add thyme and roast for 20–25mins or until it reaches 45˚C on a meat thermometer; remove to a plate, tent loosely with foil and leave in a warm place to rest until it has reached room temperature.
**3 /** Meanwhile, heat 1 tbsp vegetable oil in a small saucepan and fry capers until crisp; drain on paper towel.
**4 /** To serve, place veal in oven at 170˚C (150˚C fan) for 10mins to warm through. Carve into cutlets, keeping bones intact, and arrange on a serving plate with capers and lemon wedges.



For two bonus recipes from Andrew, use the free *viewa* app and scan this page.





ABOVE / Andrew at work in his kitchen.
LEFT / Kate Spade Gold Dots paper **napkin,** Domayne. Curtis Stone oxidised **cutlery,** Target. Tapas **bread plate,** Country Road. **Dinner plate,** Mud Australia. Maison woven **placemat,** Helle wooden **placemat** and Tam **spreader knife,** all Country Road. Pinch Pot **salt dish,** Mud Australia. Brass **sculpture,** Twomissfitz. Dagliegen **candle** and Ryssby **candleholder,** Ikea. Air **plants,** Bunnings. Vinoteca Turn **decanter,** Krosno. Orlin **red wine glass,** Country Road. Hex Hi Ball **tumbler,** Target. Table **linen,** Busatti. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

‘MY SON GAVE ME A PAIR OF JAPANESE SCISSORS FOR MY BIRTHDAY LAST YEAR. I USE THEM IN THE KITCHEN AS WELL AS FOR SCULPTING BONSAI, WHICH IS SOMETHING WE LIKE TO DO TOGETHER.’ ANDREW

**ANDREW’S FAVOURITE THINGS**
1 / “This antique French chocolate mould is so beautifully made. I used it with the kids last Easter.” 2 / Sushi knife. 3 / Japanese scissors. 4 / Fixed-blade mandolin. 5 / Masanobu VG-10 utility knife. “From Kappabashi Street in Tokyo, a street dedicated to kitchen supplies. It’s my favourite.” 6 / Diamond knife-sharpening steel. 7 / Sauce whisk. 8 / Ice-cream scoop. 9 / Laguiole butter knife. 10 / Oyster shucker. 11 / Shifting spanner bottle opener. “It’s from Japanese design house, CIBI.” 12 / Fine-mesh sieve.




Styling by Alaana Cobon (this page, top left) & Lee Blaylock. Photography by John Paul Urizar (this page, top left) & Mark Roper.



*Start 2 days ahead*

## Ricotta dumplings with burnt butter sauce

***Prep: 45 mins + 2 nights refrigeration. Cooking: 10 mins. Serves 4.***

**900g ricotta, softened**
**Zest of 1½ lemons**
**3¼ cups (500g) fine semolina**
**Burnt butter sauce**
**100g butter**
**¼ cup fresh sage leaves**
**2 tbsp currants**
**2 tbsp pine nuts, toasted**
**Juice of 1 lemon**

**1 /** Place ricotta, lemon zest and salt to taste in a bowl; whisk to combine. Transfer to a piping bag.
**2 /** Place semolina in a deep tray. Pipe ricotta mix directly on top of semolina in even, 2cm-thick logs. Cover well with semolina and refrigerate overnight.
**3 /** The next day, cut into uniform dumplings (about 2cm square). Return dumplings to semolina tray and cover each dumpling with more semolina; refrigerate overnight.
**4 /** Heat butter in a saucepan until it starts to colour (it should have a nutty smell). Add sage and cook for 1min or until crispy. Pour mixture into a small bowl, discarding any burnt bits that may have formed in the bottom of the saucepan. Add currants, pine nuts and lemon juice to butter sauce.
**5 /** Bring a large saucepan of salted water to a simmer. Carefully add dumplings and poach for 3mins. Remove with a slotted spoon, drain well and place on a warmed platter. Pour burnt butter sauce over and serve immediately.



## Roast baby artichokes

***Prep: 30 mins. Cooking: 15 mins. Serves 4.***

**2 lemons**
**12 baby artichokes**
**¾ cup (185ml) olive oil**
**1 head of garlic, cloves peeled and cut in half**
**4 sprigs fresh thyme**

**1 /** Preheat oven to 200°C (180°C fan). Squeeze juice from 1½ lemons into a saucepan or bowl filled with 1L water.
**2 /** Peel outer leaves of artichokes, trim tips, then peel the outer stem and base of the artichoke, removing all of the bitter green skin. Cut artichokes in half and place in lemon water; set aside until ready to use.
**3 /** Place oil in an ovenproof frypan over moderate heat. When warm, add artichokes, cut-side down, and cook until a deep golden colour, about 10mins. Turn artichokes, then add garlic and thyme and place in oven for 5-10mins or until tender (pierce with a knife to test).
**4 /** To serve, squeeze juice from remaining lemon over and season with salt and plenty of black pepper.

**TOP /** **Bowl,** Anchor Ceramics. Glass **tumbler,** Safari Living. **BOTTOM /** **Roasting tray,** chef's own. Georg Jensen **cutting board,** Peter's of Kensington. **Plates,** Sharon Alpren Ceramics. **Vase,** Shelley Panton. **OPPOSITE /** For similar **dessert bowls,** try Myer. **Plate,** Valerie Restarick. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

Styling by Lee Blaylock. Photography by Mark Roper.



## DINE WITH ME

Andrew is a long-time supporter of the Melbourne Food & Wine Festival, taking place this month. "The Festival is great for encouraging people to try food they might not have been exposed to before."

**Catch Andrew at the Melbourne Food & Wine Festival, February 27–March 15; www.melbournefoodandwine.com.au.**

# Almond custard with raspberries & elderflower syrup

***Prep: 20 mins + 4 hrs refrigeration. Cooking: 5 mins. Serves 6.***

**1L unsweetened almond milk**
**⅓ cup (75g) caster sugar**
**4½ leaves gelatine (titanium strength), soaked in water**
**2 tbsp caster sugar**
**2 tbsp elderflower cordial**
**1 tsp lemon juice**
**2 punnets fresh raspberries**
**1 jar fresh aloe vera (available from Asian grocers)**
**50g freeze-dried raspberries (available online)**
**50g freeze-dried lychees (available online)**

**1 /** Place almond milk and sugar in a saucepan over low heat and warm to 80°C (just before it begins to simmer). Stir from time to time to ensure sugar has dissolved. Remove from heat, then whisk in gelatine. Allow to cool, stirring occasionally to prevent a skin from forming.

**2 /** Lightly grease 6x ¾-cup (185ml) dariole moulds with vegetable oil. Once cool, divide mixture among moulds. Refrigerate 4hrs or until set.

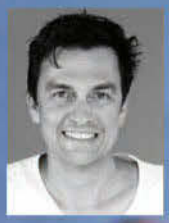
**3 /** Meanwhile, make syrup. Place sugar, elderflower cordial and 1 tbsp water in a small saucepan and bring to the boil; remove from the heat and finish with lemon juice.

**4 /** To serve, turn custards out into bowls. Arrange fresh raspberries and diced aloe vera around custard, then spoon 1½ tbsp syrup over fruit. Crush freeze-dried raspberries and lychees and sprinkle on top.

**H&G**

ENTERTAINING

# AT MY TABLE



With bunnies and eggs top of mind, **Jared Ingersoll** serves up some slightly irreverent, but absolutely delicious Easter fare.

Easter means different things to different people. To many it is a time of great religious significance surrounded by tradition and contemplation. For others, it's a public holiday with no fixed date, and for the young and young at heart, it's all about chocolate. My approach falls somewhere in the middle.

Beliefs aside, I love cooking for friends and family over this period. These are recipes inspired by the iconography of Easter and are delicious any time of year. If you haven't tried rabbit before, please do. Or, substitute chicken for the rabbit if you prefer.

## BRAISED RABBIT WITH TOMATOES

***Prep: 15 mins. Cooking: 1 hr. Serves 4-6.***

**1 whole rabbit or chicken, jointed (ask your butcher to do this for you)**
**1 ham or bacon bone**
**1 medium onion, finely diced**
**2 sticks celery, whole**
**1 large carrot, whole**
**2 cloves garlic, finely chopped**
**4 fresh bay leaves**
**1L chicken or vegetable stock**
**200g cold butter, cut into 1cm cubes**
**300g tomatoes, deseeded and diced**
**1 bunch parsley, coarsely chopped**

**1 /** Place rabbit, ham bone, onion, celery, carrot, garlic and bay leaves in a large saucepan or casserole dish and season well with salt and pepper. Add stock, topping up with water to cover rabbit if required. Cook, covered, over moderate heat until meat is tender, about 45mins.
**2 /** Using a slotted spoon, remove meat and carrot to a plate. Remove and discard ham bone and celery.
**3 /** Return cooking liquid to stove over high heat and reduce to 300–400ml. Reduce heat to low and whisk in butter a little at a time; add tomato and parsley all at once. Turn off heat and allow to stand.
**4 /** Place rabbit in a deep serving dish and pour sauce over. Serve immediately.

## EASTER BREAD

***Prep: 30 mins + proving. Cooking: 1 hr. Makes 1 loaf.***

**½ cup (125ml) milk**
**100g butter**
**1 packet dried yeast**
**3½ cups (450g) flour**
**2 eggs, plus 3-5 extra, hard-boiled (optional)**
**½ cup (110g) sugar**
**Zest of 1 lemon**
**Egg wash**

**1 /** Place milk, butter and ½ tsp salt in a saucepan and bring to the boil. Remove from heat and set aside.
**2 /** In a jug or small bowl, combine yeast, ½ cup flour and ½ cup warm water and set aside until mixture starts to bubble and rise slightly, about 15mins.
**3 /** Place 2 eggs, sugar and lemon zest in a large bowl and whisk to combine. Add milk mixture, yeast mixture and remaining flour; mix until thoroughly combined.
**4 /** Turn dough onto a lightly floured surface and knead thoroughly for 10mins. Place dough in a lightly greased bowl and cover with tea towel. Set aside in a warm place to prove for 2hrs.
**5 /** Punch down dough and turn out to a lightly floured surface. Knead a further 10mins, then place in a lightly oiled 20x11cm loaf tin. Arrange boiled eggs (unpeeled) on top. Cover with a tea towel and rest in a warm place for 45mins.
**6 /** Preheat oven to 180°C (160°C fan).
**7 /** Brush loaf with egg wash and bake for 1hr or until top is golden brown and sounds hollow when tapped.
**8 /** Allow to cool slightly in tin, then turn out onto a rack to cool completely. H&G



'THESE FESTIVE DISHES ARE IDEAL FOR SHARING AND PROVIDE BALANCE FOR ALL THAT CHOCOLATE!'

Styling by Michaela Le Compte. Photography by James Moffatt. All recipes in *H&G* are double-tested to ensure success.

DRINKS

# GRAPE STATE



Keen quaffers couldn't wish for a more diverse wine destination than South Australia, writes **Toni Paterson.**

South Australia is a wine lovers' haven, producing almost half of Australia's wine. Within a 150km radius of Adelaide are nine different wine regions, each with its own character and charm. Many are less than an hour's drive away from Adelaide, making for an easy day trip. Further afield are another nine regions, so there are plenty of vinous delights to discover.

In the far north lies the Southern Flinders Ranges, where you'll find a handful of boutique wineries. Here, richly flavoured cabernet and shiraz can be found.

Next is the Clare Valley, a quintessential Australian wine region. Riesling is the superstar, known for its pure floral aromatics and intense flavours. Drive, or cycle, the riesling trail, or visit Skillogalee winery restaurant for sublime local fare.

Just over three hours' drive south-east of Clare is the Riverland, where grapes from irrigated vineyards find their way into big-name affordable brands.

Then there's the Barossa Valley, known for its sublime, full-bodied reds. Barossa shiraz is world renowned – its hallmarks being generosity, chocolatey richness and soft tannins. Visit one of the cellar doors and experience old vine mourvèdre or spicy bush-vine grenache. Not to be missed is a meal at Appellation, where sommelier Cassaly Fitzgerald champions lesser-known local wines. Or drive up into the Eden Valley for glorious flinty riesling.

The Adelaide Hills is not to be missed for chardonnay and well-crafted sauvignon blanc; the sub-regions of Lenswood and Piccadilly Valley are beautiful.

South of Adelaide is the charming McLaren Vale, with its cosy cellar doors and welcoming vibe. The geology of the region is diverse, allowing different varieties to flourish. Visit Yangarra Estate Vineyard and try its wines made from Rhone varietals such as carignan, cinsault, mataró and roussanne.

And close by are the regions of the Southern Fleurieu, which produces elegant whites and reds; Langhorne Creek, known for its robust reds; and Currency Creek, home to a handful of tiny wineries. Just off the coast is Kangaroo Island where many respectable drops are produced.

Journey far south to find a cluster of regions, distinct in style. The coastal areas of Mount Benson and Robe are known for their bright whites and vibrant reds. Inland you'll find Padthaway, which makes lovely chardonnay and honest reds. Then comes Wrattonbully, home to the fine wines of Tapanappa and Terre à Terre.

Visit Coonawarra for spicy shiraz and superb cabernet sauvignon. Try Fodder restaurant in the township or journey a little further to SA's southernmost wine region, Mount Gambier, and eat at The Barn Steakhouse, with its impressive selection of local Limestone Coast and international wines. H&G




## TONI'S TOP DROPS

**2013 Bremerton Fiano, $24**
Lemon scented with a faint nutty undercurrent. The palate is bright and fresh with light citrus notes, moderate alcohol and texture.

**2013 Shaw + Smith Adelaide Hills Pinot Noir, $45**
An excellent wine from a high-quality producer. Superb varietal expression, flavour and balance.

**2013 Hewitson Ned & Henry's Barossa Valley Shiraz, $28**
Contemporary in style with intense aromatics of raspberry coulis and warm spices. There is a vein of minerality and the texture is supple and plush.

**2014 Grant Burge Kraft Sauvignon Blanc, $25**
A sophisticated, elegant Adelaide Hills savvy – minerally, weighty, perfectly balanced and delicious.

Photograph by Will Horner.

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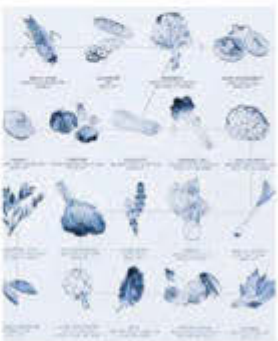

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***'Tis the season***
Tune into nature's bounty with the Seasonal Vegetable Chart (Temperate Climate), $48. Illustrated by Chris Edser, each image includes notes on which parts of the vegetable are edible and how to prepare it. Grown & Gathered; www.grownandgathered.com.au.





**A FRIEND FOR TEA**

Rita is the new, generously proportioned teapot by Spanish designer Quim Larrea. Each handcrafted terracotta pot is individually numbered and will develop a lovely patina over time. $90, from Ajar; www.ajar.com.au.

## HOW DO YOU LIKE THEM APPLES?

"April is the perfect time to enjoy apples," says chef Matt Moran. "I use Granny Smiths to make a classic apple crumble – always a crowd pleaser." *Matt's Kitchen Garden Cookbook* (Penguin) is our gift to you for subscribing to *H&G* this month. Turn to page 212 for more details.




*Yours FREE when you subscribe!*

FOOD HERO



## *Sam Christie*

***The Sydney restaurateur is putting aromatic curries back on the menu.***

***News*** Sam Christie has reopened the doors of Thai eateries Shortgrain Canteen and Longrain Bunker Bar as a smart new Indian restaurant, Subcontinental. His take on Indian cuisine may not be strictly authentic – but it does provide an answer to: "Where can you get a good curry in Sydney?"
***Motivation*** Responsible for some of Australia's most revered restaurants – Longrain and The Apollo – Sam attributes his success to one simple goal: "Consistency. I thrive on my customers' enjoyment of food and drink, good service and a great atmosphere", he says.
***Sydney's dining scene needs...*** "More healthy takeway places. I love a great salad but often need to eat it on the run."
***Alternative career*** "Art curator or gallery owner. I love art and to be surrounded by it would be a gift."
***Subcontinental, 8 Hunt St, Surry Hills, NSW; (02) 9280 0088.***

Text by Alaana Cobon (Food Hero, Matt Moran) & Christina Gee.


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# DECO DELIGHT

**Rebuilt following a quake in the 1930s, the seaside town of Napier is the Art Deco jewel in New Zealand's crown, writes Indira Naidoo.**

Our small plane makes a neat landing and taxis briskly to the tiny Hawke's Bay terminal. Lush green pastures surround the airport, on New Zealand's east coast, and the sheep and cattle grazing along the fence lines don't even lift their heads as we motor by.

It's impossible to imagine that until last century, the land this airport occupies was at the bottom of the sea. That all changed at 10.47am on February 3, 1931, when Napier was struck by an earthquake registering 7.8 on the Richter scale. For two-and-a-half minutes the 'earth swayed violently', claiming the lives of 162 people and unleashing a series of explosive fires that reduced the picturesque town to blackened ruins.

It was devastating, but the quake also left what locals now call 'the gift'. Its force lifted the seabed underneath Ahuriri lagoon more than 2m, draining the water within minutes and turning it into 2230ha of prized land, where the airport stands today.

A massive reconstruction effort began almost immediately. Local architects set to work planning a new city that would capitalise on the latest engineering and design techniques. A key figure was Louis Hay, who was heavily influenced by the American design movement of the time, Art Deco, and one of its proponents, Frank Lloyd Wright. The new Napier style was romantic, decorative and, importantly, incorporated earthquake-resistant reinforced concrete in its structures.

Dozens of new buildings – from factories and offices to suburban homes – were rebuilt in either the Art Deco, Spanish Mission or Stripped Classical styles of the time and most have remained, making Napier one of the world's top destinations for 1930s architecture.

The best way to see these gems is with a combined drive-and-walking tour. I am met at my hotel, the Art Deco Masonic Hotel, by tour guide Cherrie of Packard Promenades and settle into her vintage car. Cherrie handles the 1939 Packard's grunting gearbox expertly up Bluff Hill and past the main port as we make for the National Tobacco Company building.

It is quite striking. Though constructed during the Great Depression, there's nothing restrained about the highly decorative facade, which features a wide Art Deco arch and clumps of sculpted roses and native bulrushes or *raupo*. There are gleaming brass-work banisters, rich woodwork around the doors, ornate lamps and a speckled marble foyer with a beautiful stained-glass dome. ▶

Photography from Getty Images.




Art Deco examples such as the domed A&B Building on Marine Parade give Napier its unique architectural flavour. **OPPOSITE /** With terrifically varied soil, some of it volcanic, the Hawke's Bay region is renowned for everything from dairy produce and fruit to award-winning wines.

***After the 1931 earthquake, Napier and its surrounding suburbs became the newest, most modern city in the world.***









*Take a trip back in time*

◂ Back in the bouncy seats of the Packard, we drive through the southern suburb of Marewa, where there are many examples of Modernist houses from the late 1930s. The less ornate, more streamlined style was popular in local domestic architecture. The houses are curvilinear, with rounded bays, flat roofs and white stucco finishes typical of 'ocean liner' style architecture.

Cherrie takes us back into town and cruises along Tennyson Street. Here, many of Napier's 140 Art Deco buildings have been meticulously restored with fresh coats of contrasting pastel paints, revealing intricate mouldings and motifs.

Parting with Cherrie and the Packard, I continue my tour on foot with my new guide Lesley, who leads me down to the nearby Municipal Theatre. Another Louis Hay original, it features Egyptian-style columns and door lintels – but it's what lies inside that's the real treat: the original patterned carpet has been accurately reproduced and two spectacular neon ceiling lights pulsate without pause.

Baz Luhrmann's 2013 film *The Great Gatsby* created a resurgence of interest in the 1930s and Napier is cashing in. Events such as the fast-growing annual Tremains Art Deco Weekend in February, a showcase of vintage cars and fashion parades, highlight the zeal with which the people of Napier have turned a natural disaster into a triumph. **H&G**

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP / A hot rod parked in front of Tennyson Chambers, which was designed in the 1930s by local 'starchitect' Louis Hay with shock-proof foundations. The decorative capital of the Masonic Hotel is geometric-inspired Art Deco, while its interior features Maori motifs. Originally built in the 1870s, the 1932 post-earthquake version of the Provincial Hotel is Spanish Mission-style and now famous for its Dram & Cock whisky bar.

## *where to stay*

- **Art Deco Masonic Hotel** is a newly refurbished hotel on Tennyson Street; www.masonic.co.nz.
- **Breckenridge Lodge** is a Tuscan-style B&B in the vineyards of nearby Omarunui; www.breckenridgelodge.co.nz.
- **The Farm at Cape Kidnappers** in Te Awanga is a luxurious clifftop retreat with a world-class golf course and spa; www.capekidnappers.com.

## *where to eat/drink*

- **Mister D** Hipster dining on Tennyson Street; www.misterd.co.nz.
- **Black Barn Bistro** For high-end comfort food under the vines at Havelock North; www.blackbarn.co.nz.
- Also try **Emporium Eatery and Bar** at the Masonic Hotel and **Mission Estate Winery Restaurant**; missionestate.co.nz.

## *what to do*

- **Vintage Car Tours;** www.packardpromenades.co.nz.
- **Art Deco Walking Tours** and **Tremains Art Deco Weekend;** www.artdeconapier.com.
- **Birdwoods Gallery;** www.birdwoodsgallery.co.nz.

## *how to get there*

- **Air New Zealand** flies from all main ports to Napier (via Auckland) several times a day; www.airnewzealand.com.au.

Photography from Getty Images. Indira Naidoo travelled as a guest of Tourism New Zealand and Air New Zealand.


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***Kerri-Anne Kennerley, Patron of the Cancer Patients Foundation and the Look Good…Feel Better program***

Look Good...Feel Better.

HEALTH

# USE YOUR LOAF



**For a slice of the healthy life, it pays to understand what's in your daily bread – and you may not find the full story on the label, writes Paula Goodyer.**

Once upon a time buying bread was simple: white or brown? Now it's not only the range that makes your decision more difficult, but the marketing claims that surround bread too. Is white bread with added fibre or nutrients really as good as wholegrain? And just how 'whole' are those grains?

The label doesn't always tell the full story, says Natasha Murray of the Dietitians Association of Australia. "If you're comparing labels for fibre content for example, a white bread with extra fibre may have more fibre than a wholegrain loaf but that doesn't make it a better choice," she says. "The fact that it's made with finely milled white flour means it will have a higher glycaemic index (GI), so instead of being slowly digested and keeping blood-sugar levels more even – meaning you feel fuller for longer – it will be more rapidly digested, so you're likely to soon feel hungry again."

The use of the word 'wholegrain' is contentious, too. It might conjure up cosy images of unrefined grains, but finely milled flour can still be labelled wholegrain providing all the grain's components remain in the flour. In other words, the bread is 'whole' grain in the sense that it contains all its parts, but it's been pulverised to a refined flour. Again, this means more rapid digestion and similar blood-sugar spikes to white bread, says Murray.

According to Murray, the best choice is a bread that's darker in colour, has a dense, coarse texture and preferably lots of 'bits' spread throughout the loaf rather than a sprinkling of seeds on top. "The darker the bread, the less refined the flour and the more nutritious it's likely to be," she says. "Dark rye is a great choice."

Sourdough, especially a darker wholegrain sourdough, is good too because the lactic acid produced from fermentation results in a lower-GI loaf. "Be sure to choose a sourdough labelled 'authentic' or 'traditional' as it's more likely to have been made with a traditional starter rather than commercial yeast," says Murray.

Bread is one of the main sources of added salt in the diet, so always read the label – 400mg sodium per 100g or less is best.

What if you have family members who stubbornly refuse anything but white bread? Murray suggests weaning them on to darker, grainier bread by making sandwiches with one slice of white and one slice of rye or wholegrain. H&G

### SENSE AND SENSITIVITIES

If you've been diagnosed with coeliac disease or a sensitivity to gluten, bread made with wheat, spelt, barley or rye is off the menu. Oats are also best avoided because they contain avenin, a type of gluten that can cause problems for some coeliacs, says dietitian Natasha Murray. Look for the 'gluten free' tag – only truly gluten-free products may carry this label. Some such foods can be low in fibre; check for at least 4g fibre per 100g.



'THE DARKER THE BREAD, THE LESS REFINED THE FLOUR AND THE MORE NUTRITIOUS IT'S LIKELY TO BE.'
NATASHA MURRAY, DIETITIAN

Illustration by Domenic Bahmann.

BEAUTY

# LOCK STARS



Hair degenerates with age and over-styling so seize the day – and the products – to right your follicular wrongs, writes **Elisabeth King.**

Hair may not be a living thing but too much sun and styling products will strip the strands of lustre. Studies have proved that the regular use of protective and nourishing haircare makes hair stronger and less prone to breakage. So, when it's time to address thinning, breaking and drying, heed this advice:

**FORTIFY & STRENGTHEN**

If you have noticed shorter, sticking-up hairs around your crown or hairline, it's time to switch to a strengthening or restructuring shampoo and conditioner. There's no need to spend a fortune, the big-name manufacturers have huge research and development budgets that boutique brands can only dream of. The Avon Advance Techniques Reconstruction 7 range, including Shampoo and Conditioner, Treatment Mask and Damage Rehab Treatment, is a great at-home treatment.

**SCALP CARE**

More than 60 per cent of women experience hair thinning or loss due to age, health or hormonal changes. Aveda Shampure Composition Calming Aromatic Oil contains organic sunflower oil and plant and flower essences to deeply nourish the scalp and seal in moisture.

**SPLIT ENDS**

Regular colouring, hairdryers and straighteners all contribute to split ends. The L'Oréal Professionnel Serie Expert Absolut Repair Lipidium range is a hair-restoration program of seven products. It includes Sealing Repair Double Serum, which contains resurfacing oil to seal split ends.

**LEAVE-IN CONDITIONERS**

Dry hair looks dull because it lacks moisture. Using a leave-in conditioner acts as a curative and preventative measure against tangles, frizzies and breakage. Fudge 1 Shot Treatment is a good option for dry, damaged hair.

**HEAT SHIELD**

Let's be clear: the less you use heating tools, the better off your hair will be. The average 180˚C temperature generated by hair straighteners sucks the moisture from the hair and can lead to a loss of strength. L'Oreal Paris Elnett Satin Heat Spray contains the heat-protection agent Xylose, which acts as a protective film around each shaft to lock in volume and keep frizzies at bay.

**DRY SHAMPOO**

KMS California Hairplay Makeover Spray is a lightweight spray that absorbs scalp oil between washes. It adds a soft texture for style touch-ups. H&G




**1 /** KMS California Hairplay Makeover Spray, $29.
**2 /** Aveda Shampure Composition Calming Aromatic Oil, $49.
**3 /** Avon Advance Techniques Reconstruction 7 range Damage Rehab Treatment, $15.
**4 /** L'Oreal Professionnel Serie Expert Absolut Repair Lipidium Sealing Repair Double Serum. **5 /** John Frieda Frizz-Ease Intensive Mask, $17.
**6 /** Avon Advance Techniques Reconstruction 7 range Shampoo and Conditioner, $10/each. **7 /** L'Oréal Paris Elnett Satin Heat Spray, $13.
**8 /** Fudge 1 Shot Treatment, $19. **9 /** Avon Advance Techniques Reconstruction 7 range Treatment Mask, $13.
**10 /** Schwarzkopf BB 11 in 1 Hair Beautifier, $11.

Styling by Janet James. Photograph by Will Horner. Minosa Corian shower shelves and towel shelf, from $315/each. Lindform ceramic vase, $49, Funkis. Honey Nectar soap, $13, MOR Modern Apothecary. Citrus Lane candle, $35, and face washer, $17, Sheridan. For Where to Buy, see page 208.

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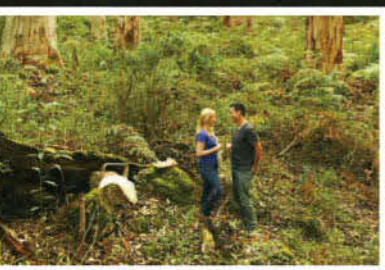
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***Renovation know-how,*** ***products + expert advice***

This outdoor room, designed by Shane Plazibat Architects, features Cotto Etrusco Elle tessellated tiles from Elite Bathware & Tiles. Blue Steel Flash bricks, PGH Bricks & Pavers. Provenza Re-Use floor tiles, Di Lorenzo Tiles.

Shane Plazibat Architects; (07) 3839 6111 or www.sparch.com.au. Photograph by Alicia Taylor. For Where to Buy, see page 208.

# ADVICE

IN FOCUS

# FAMILY ROOMS

Casual at heart and practical by necessity, these relaxed living spaces will please everyone who uses them, writes **Sarah Pickette.**



Family rooms are a bit like families themselves: they come in many shapes and sizes. But they all have one thing in common; they are places for interaction and conversation. "A family room is a space that bookends the day for a family, from the first interactions of the day to the busy period until bedtime," says Gold Coast architect Bayden Goddard.

Where it differs from other living spaces is that functionality and durability take top billing, says Melbourne interior designer Camilla Molders. "I look for comfortable sofas in a neutral, natural-fibre fabric. Then I have all the furniture sitting on a generous-sized rug to anchor the room and ensure everything feels connected yet intimate."



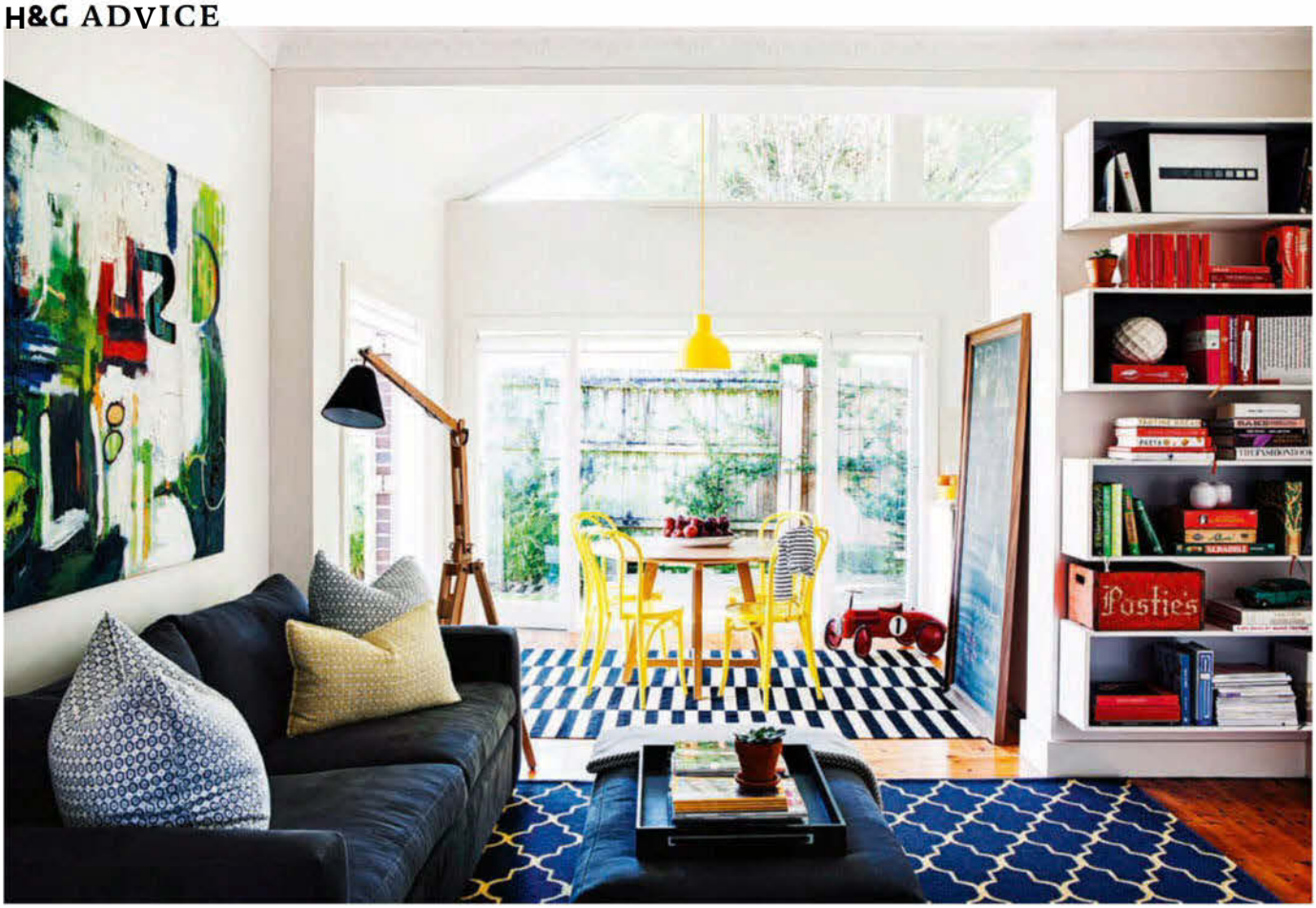
1 ***Place of their own*** "The boys like to escape here when we're entertaining," says the owner of this family area (opposite) in a renovated Melbourne home. The room has plenty of visual interest but is blessedly uncluttered. The wallpaper backing the bookshelves is Osborne & Little Triffid from Seneca Textiles. Poppy rug from Nicola Cerini.



2 ***A family room needn't occupy a large area. In this Sydney home (above) a change of level gave the owners an opportunity to include a cosy space opposite the kitchen. A sliding door closes the room off when the children want to watch TV and custom storage ensures books and DVDs are within easy reach. Cavalier Bremworth carpet. Bambi wall art from Pony Rider.***
***Molnar Freeman Architects; www.molnarfreeman.com.***

3 ***Double duty*** Smart furniture purchases, such as the Jardan sofa bed in this renovated Sydney apartment (left) serve a family room well and provide handy guest accommodation. The petite space is bright and airy, with bamboo roman blinds providing privacy without blocking the light. The room's original floorboards were stripped and stained with Porter's Paints Wood Wash in Paper.
**Brooke Aitken Design; www.brookeaitkendesign.com.au.**

Photography by Maree Homer & Armelle Habib (opposite).






4 ***Ample storage is one of the hallmarks of a great family room. In this Sydney home (above) custom-designed shelving keeps books and toys in order. The owners' love of primary colours is reflected in the Armadillo&Co rug, Thonet dining chairs painted Dulux Fluffy Duckling and Bonnie Greene artwork.***

***Property Lipstick; www.propertylipstick.com.***

5 ***Black and right*** An abundance of natural light is an asset to any room. In the case of this Melbourne family room (left), soaring clerestory windows have given architect Geoff Challis of Venn Architects licence to define and anchor the room with deep, seductive tones. On the floor is Condo Plush carpet in Raven from Godfrey Hirst. Sofas by Jardan and coffee table from Zuster. Above the TV and fireplace are striking artworks by Thai artist Gee, available through Tusk Gallery.
To see more of this home, turn to page 104.
**Venn Architects; www.vennarchitects.com.**

Photography by Maree Homer (top), Armelle Habib (left) & Angelita Bonetti (opposite).

DEFINE AND ANCHOR THE ROOM WITH SEDUCTIVE DEEP TONES.



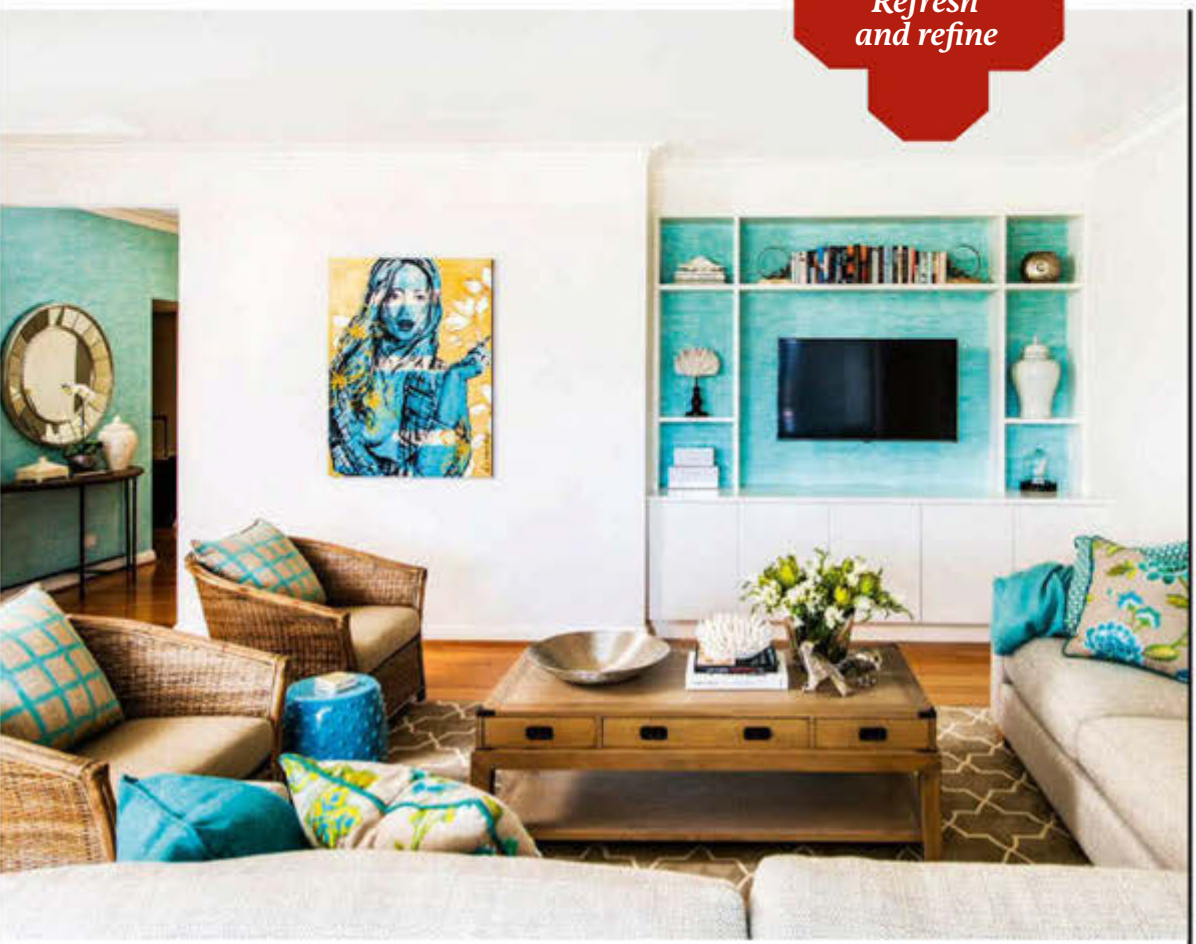

6 ***Relaxed living*** A family room can carry off a vibrancy that a more formal living space can't. Situated just off the kitchen and dining area, the colourful family zone of this Perth home has a delightfully casual feel. Two Kelvin Giormani sofas from Contempo are set around a large ottoman that was custom-made in a green Warwick Fabrics velvet from The General Store. On the floor, a durable hemp-weave Nest rug from Armadillo&Co brings a beachy aspect to the space. ▶



*7 A well-resolved family room will appeal to everyone. Toowoomba-based interior designer Natalie Brownlie worked with homeowner Bec Statton (pictured) to create a low-maintenance and child-friendly space. The bench seat, colourful paper pom poms, and French Allure rug play to the 'decorative and durable' theme.*

*TarlieB Designs; www.tarliebdesigns.com.au.*

# Refresh and refine



ROOM UPDATE

*Warm white walls punctuated by aqua accents introduce a relaxed, family-friendly feel in this Brisbane apartment.*

***The brief*** "'Whiten and brighten the space' was my clients' request for this family room," says Leigh Boswell, interior designer at Brisbane-based Highgate House. "This apartment is generously sized and has high ceilings and great city views. It had previously been rented and was in need of a refresh to reflect the new owners' tastes."

***The makeover*** The whole apartment was gutted and remodelled to allow for a better layout and spatial flow. "When it came to decorating the family room, the starting point was a floral Manuel Canovas fabric we choose for the cushions," says Boswell. "The turquoise colour in that fabric inspired the choice of wallpaper that backs the joinery and lines the foyer." Aqua accents perfectly complement the neutral sofas and chairs Boswell chose for the room. Rattan tub chairs introduce a touch of texture and give a nod to the relaxed Queensland lifestyle the owners love. Custom joinery defines and enhances the space, and the walls throughout look fresh, thanks to a lick of warm white paint.

***Why it works*** "I think this room has the casual feel the owners were after," says Boswell. "It's comfortable and fuss-free, a place where the family can gather and chat at the end of the day." H&G

Photography by Steve Ryan (this page) & Maree Homer (opposite).

THE LOWDOWN

Leigh Boswell had plenty of freedom with this design job. "The project was an interior designer's dream," she says. "The clients were delightful people and gave me carte blanche to do as I saw fit."




- **Joinery** Designer Kitchens; designerkitchens.com.au.
- **Walls** Painted Resene Quarter Thorndon Cream; www.resene.com.au.
- **Wallpaper** Thibaut Outer Banks wallpaper from Boyac; boyac.com.au.
- **Sofas** Custom-made by Highgate House.
- **Floral cushions** Manuel Canovas Carla fabric from Domus Textiles; domustextiles.com.au.
- **Chairs** Amara chairs from Wisteria; wisteria.com.
- **Grid-print cushions** Robert Allen Twill Works fabric in Turquoise from Redelman Fabrics & Wallcoverings; www.redelman.com.
- **Coffee table** Campaign table in Weathered Oak from May Time; www.maytime.co.nz.
- **Rug** Wool rug from Rug Establishment; www.therugest.com.
- **Artwork** David Bromley, available through Trevor Victor Harvey Gallery; www.tvhgallery.com.

***Highgate House; (07) 3256 0860 or highgatehouse.com.au.***

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# ask an expert



Resident interiors expert **Rose-Marie Hillier** offers advice for brightening up a gloomy room and finding the right bedside table.

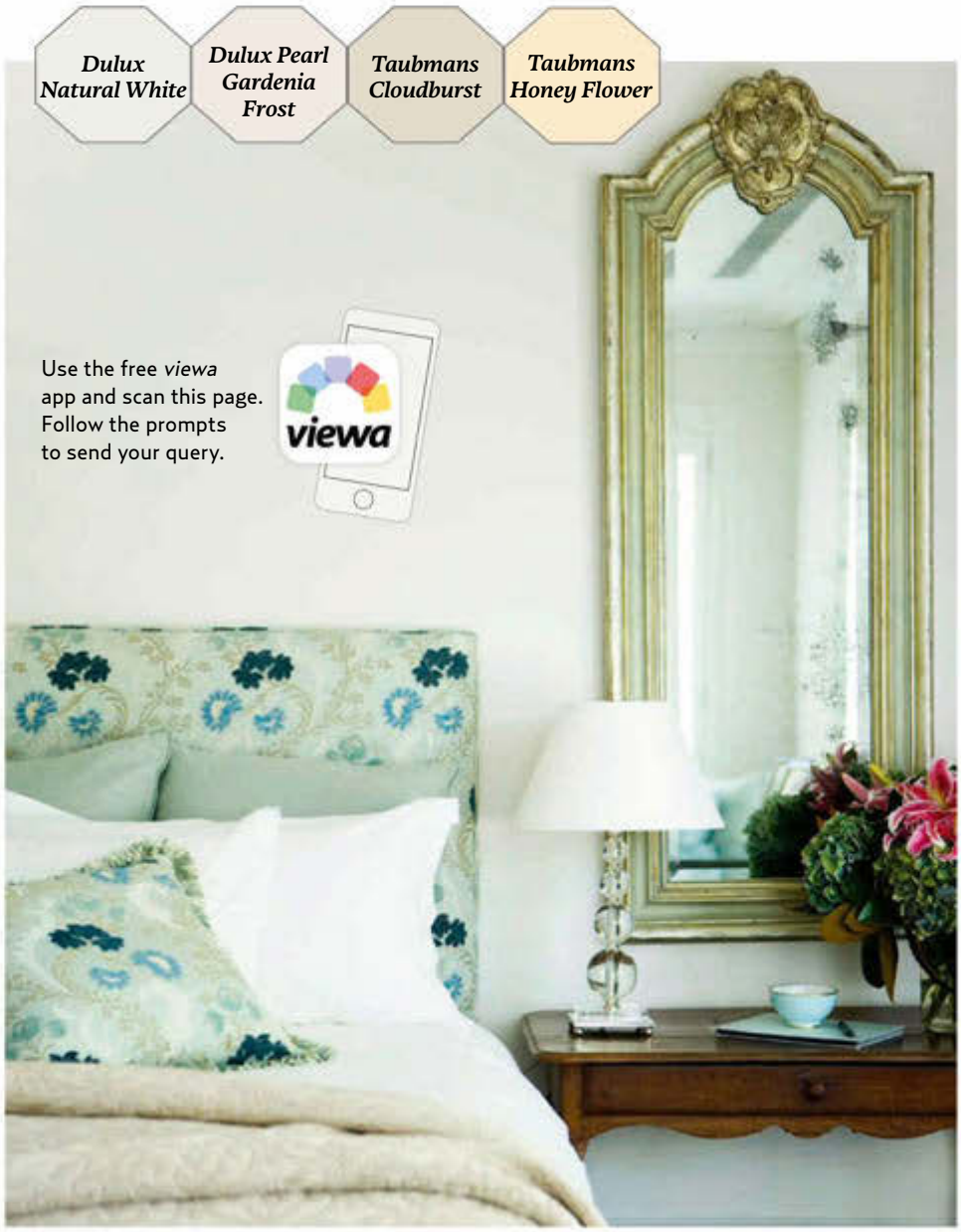
WRITE IN

Send your question, with your name and address, to Rose-Marie via H&G Advice, GPO Box 4088, Sydney, NSW 1028, or email h&g@bauer-media.com.au.

***Q Our early 20th-century home has lovely high ceilings, but the main bedroom is rather dark and gloomy. I am not sure what we can do structurally or decoratively to make a change. Can you help? – Arabella Johns, via email***

A Start with the right colour palette. Avoid strong contrasts and dark colours on the floor, and opt for a soft white or neutral with a warm base tone and a luminous feel, such as Dulux Natural White and Taubmans Cloudburst or Honey Flower, for the walls. Use half strength for trims and quarter strength for the ceiling. Consider paint with a pearlised finish in off-white or oyster such as Dulux Pearl Gardenia Frost, at least for a feature wall.

A mirror can do wonders to enliven a space. Position your bed opposite a window and use an oversized mirror – above the bedhead or beside the bed – to pick up the light that comes in. It's worth checking to see if you can install a skylight or clerestory (ceiling-height) window, too. If that's not possible, try a fanlight over your bedroom door to attract some internal light. But I'd be holding out for the window. In my own south-east facing bedroom, installing a clerestory window instantly gave the room a brighter outlook. www.dulux.com.au. www.taubmans.com.au.




Photograph by Maree Homer/bauersyndication.com.au. Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.

FAST FIND

## BEDSIDE TABLES



















***You don't fully appreciate a bedside table until you sleep in a room without one. Unless you are after a luxury hotel look, give matchy-matchy the flick. It's so much more fun to go asymmetrical with slightly different styles. Here are my top 10:***

***Varberg Collection Bedside Table 9312 (1)***
Aficionados of Danish design will love the modern Scandi style. $139, Sokol; 1300 665 426 or www.sokol.com.au.

***Ulsberg (2)***
This glass-topped tripod table is just the thing if you are after something lightweight and a bit retro. And at $40, it's a steal. Ikea; (02) 8020 6641 or www.ikea.com.au.

***Commode 2-Drawer (3)***
This classic style goes with EVERYTHING. $569, La Maison; (02) 9698 8860 or www.lamaison.net.au.

***Boomer***
Ideal for those who like to linger in bed with coffee and the newspaper. It has a removable breakfast tray and pull-out coffee tray as well as utility drawer and shelf. From $750, Côté Maison; (02) 9698 4449 or www.cotemaison.com.au.

***Butter stool (4)***
A happy little stool like this recycled-polyethylene one is a valuable addition bedside. $319, DesignByThem; (02) 8005 4805 or www.designbythem.com.

***Nugget stool***
This pentagonal ceramic stool with gold crackle finish adds a touch of luxe to the bedroom. $895, Coco Republic; (02) 9318 1442 or www.cocorepublic.com.au.

***Leo (5)***
It has generous drawers plus cupboard-style access for larger items, but it's the sleek curves I find particularly appealing. $299, RetroJan; 1300 492 098 or www.retrojan.com.au.

***Giorgetti Duet***
Designed in Italy by Antonello Mosca, the lower drawer of this glam cabinet is positioned according to its place on the right or left side of the bed. $4100, Space; (02) 8339 7588 or www.spacefurniture.com.au.

***Eileen Gray Adjustable Cigarette Table***
Designed in 1927 as a contemporary alternative to the traditional bedside, Eileen Gray's chrome and glass Cigarette Table was revolutionary in its day. It's now reproduced under licence by ClassiCon and you can pick it up for $1500 from Anibou; (02) 9319 0655 or www.anibou.com.au.

***Meander (6)***
Made from bronze and zebrawood veneer, this bedside table is the height of fashion. POA, Hamel+Farrell for Jean de Merry; (02) 9699 3688 or www.hamelandfarrell.com.



GARDENING Q&A

***Q I have two mop top robinias that keep throwing up suckers over a wide area. What can I do to stop this? – Nicola Stanbridge, Sylvania, NSW***

A Mop top and golden robinias are notorious for producing suckers, which usually emerge in spring or summer. The problem is exacerbated when roots are damaged by digging or mowing. You mustn't leave suckers growing because they're from the rootstock onto which the robinia is grafted. This rootstock then grows into a very tall and thorny tree. If you act when each sucker is small, you can kill them by carefully painting glyphosate solution (Roundup, Zero or Eraze Max) on the suckers' leaves. However, if you do this on large suckers or too many at once, you risk killing the whole tree. The alternative is to cut – not pull – each sucker out at the base, but often they simply regrow. Unfortunately, once a tree starts suckering, it will keep suckering. The same management strategies apply to suckers produced by crepe myrtles, elms and some ornamental plums. Never, ever use glyphosate on the suckers of grafted roses; it would likely kill them. *– Helen Young, gardening expert.*

Photograph from Alamy (plant).

*the green house*

# perfect odds



**The time is ripe to embrace misshapen fruit and vegies to help halt food waste, writes Sarah Pickette.**

Despite the efforts of producers, fruit and vegetables do not grow in standard shapes and sizes. Not all bananas have a bend, some varieties of apple have spotty skin, and some carrots look like they come from outer space. All are edible and nutritious, but until recently you've probably not seen them in your supermarket.

The campaign to rescue 'ugly' fruit and veg is gaining momentum, with a view to halting the needless waste that occurs as a result of retailers' decisions not to sell imperfect produce. Grocers Harris Farm Markets led the way, selling misshapen or slightly blemished fruit and vegetables as 'Imperfect Picks'. Woolworths then took up the baton, marketing less-than-perfect potatoes, apples, pears and carrots under its 'The Odd Bunch' banner. And Aussie Farmers Direct now sells Spade & Barrow's Naked n' Fresh boxes of wonky-yet-delicious fruit and veg.

"It's wonderful to see," says Ronni Kahn, CEO of OzHarvest, an organisation that collects excess food and delivers it to those in need. "Every time we prevent perfectly good food from being wasted we save the water, energy, money, time and labour that went into producing that food from going to waste."

More than 30 per cent of Australian food is thrown out or rejected from sale based on its appearance, says Katy Barfield, CEO of Spade & Barrow, the first commercial organisation to put this kind of produce on the market on a national scale through Aussie Farmers Direct. It sources its fruit and vegetables directly from growers. "Our farmers are getting a fair price for their whole crop so we are helping them to stay on their land and reducing unnecessary waste," she says.

According to Horticulture Australia about 277,700 tonnes of the major fruit and vegie lines are wasted each year, mostly due to the failure to meet strict retail quality specifications. For example, 10 per cent of carrots are culled due to being damaged, while 23 per cent are culled due to being 'out of specification'. The time is ripe for change. H&G

Photograph courtesy of Harris Farm Markets.




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KING LIVING

SMART SHOPPER

# BRICKS

Shrugging off the cloak of render and rocking up in exciting new forms, bricks are looking better than ever, writes **Georgia Madden.**




## ECO CRED

As a building material, bricks score top marks for eco appeal: they are natural, durable, virtually maintenance-free, and extremely energy-efficient. "Brick homes, especially double-brick ones, have excellent thermal mass," says David Bird. "In summer, they absorb the sun's heat gradually to keep the home cool during the hottest part of the day, and in winter they hold the home's heat to help keep it warm inside. This reduces electricity use by up to 25 per cent, and heating and cooling costs by up to 38 per cent." According to Think Brick Australia, when bricks are used in conjunction with good solar-passive design and insulation, it's possible to eliminate the need for artificial heating or cooling entirely.



Bowral Blue slimline glazed bricks, Austral Bricks. **OPPOSITE** Black glazed bricks, Euroa Clay Products.

The humble brick has undergone a dramatic makeover in recent years. If it's been a while since you last built or renovated, you might be surprised to learn that the trusty house brick now comes in hundreds of different colours, textures and sizes. "There's been a quantum leap in the range of designs and finishes available in Australia in recent years," says David Bird, general manager of Boral Bricks East. "New technologies are allowing us to produce a greater range of high-quality colour coatings."

Colours now span the spectrum from low-key white, dove grey and charcoal through to bold red, blue and purple, while finishes include everything from rustic sandstock to glazed metallics and super-smooth opal finishes. Companies such as PGH Bricks & Pavers are working closely with colourists to ensure their new releases reflect the latest colour trends (right now watermelon, lemon and green, as well as a muted 'Seascape' range of soft greys, taupe and turquoise are in vogue).

Even fashion designers are getting in on the act; Camilla Franks recently collaborated with Austral to produce a collection inspired by the vibrant colours of Mexico. And if you still can't find the right style, companies such as Adbri Masonry will customise one for you.

For many in the design world, the return of brick is long overdue. "Bricks have integrity as a building material," says Melbourne-based architect Karen Abernethy, who was commended for her use of bricks in a residential project at the 2014 Think Brick Awards. "They have a historical familiarity that people can relate to and, at the same time, they offer up endless possibilities for reinterpretation."

With their warm natural appeal, bricks sit beautifully alongside other natural materials such as timber and stone. You'll find brick shapes that are specially ▶



**FROM TOP /** Bowral50 bricks in Simmental Silver from Austral Bricks. Alumni bricks from PGH Bricks & Pavers. Fusion bricks in Cobalt from Boral Bricks. La Paloma bricks in Miro from Austral Bricks. **FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.**

Photograph by Jody D'Arcy (this page) & Chris Warnes (opposite).




**1** / Nobel Splits glazed brick in Black, POA, PGH Bricks & Pavers. **2** / Shotblast Architectural Brick in Ebony, from $1650/1000, Adbri Masonry. **3** / Ultra Smooth brick in Lush, from $2285/1000, Austral Bricks. **4** / Camilla for Austral glazed brick in Sol, from $3715/1000, Austral Bricks. **5** / Vibrant Splits glazed brick in Tango, POA, PGH Bricks & Pavers. **6** / Recycled face brick in Brown, from $650/1000, The Brickpit. **7** / Camilla for Austral glazed brick in Aubergine, from $3715/1000, Austral Bricks. **8** / Fusion brick in Bronze, from $1750/1000, Boral Bricks. **9** / Fusion brick in Electrum, from $1750/1000, Boral Bricks. **10** / Seascape Splits glazed brick in Lagoon, POA, PGH Bricks & Pavers. **11** / Honed Architectural Brick in Fossil, from $1650/1000, Adbri Masonry. **12** / Fusion brick in Cobalt, from $1750/1000, Boral Bricks. **13** / Honed Architectural Brick in Ivory, from $1650/1000, Adbri Masonry. **14** / Seascape Splits glazed brick in Pumice, POA, PGH Bricks & Pavers. **15** / Shotblast Architectural Brick in Sunstone, from $1650/1000, Adbri Masonry. **16** / Metallix silk-finish brick in Platinum, from $1702/1000, Austral Bricks. **17** / Recycled face brick in Sandy Cream, from $650/1000, The Brickpit.

FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

◀ designed to finish off corners, angles and slopes; designs and textures that sensitively bridge the gap between the old and new parts of your home; and sharp lines and bold colours to set off the most contemporary of builds.

Bricks offer far more than just good looks, says Greg Weller, spokesperson for the Housing Industry Association (HIA). "They're low-maintenance, fire-resistant, and have impressive thermal properties." They're also made to last, with some having a 100-year guarantee.

But it's the new-look designer bricks creating a buzz among architects and builders, says Weller. "Bricks are being viewed not just for their structural purpose but for their design potential, too, with different-sized bricks used to create new effects (for example, slimline bricks to create the impression of higher walls)."

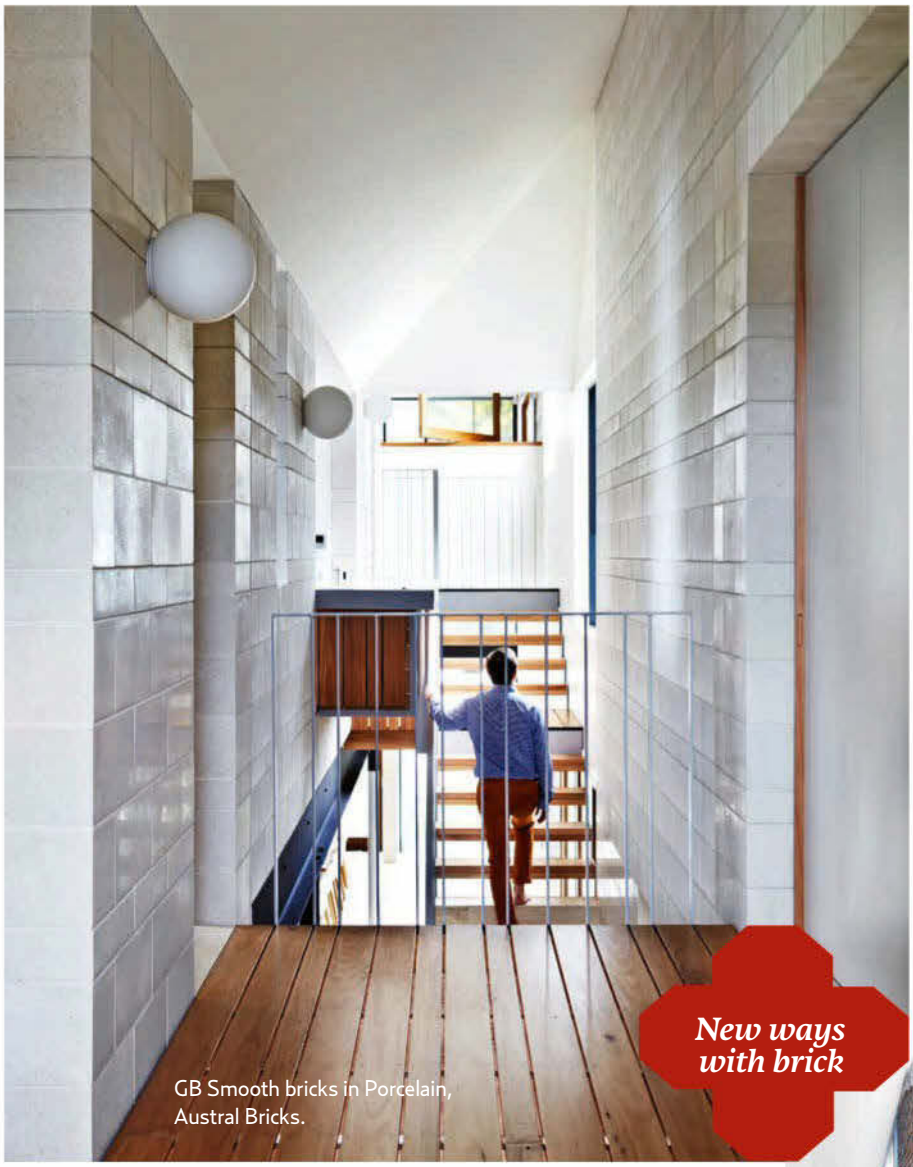
And it's not just happening outside our homes, says Elizabeth McIntyre, CEO at Think Brick Australia. "Increasingly, we're seeing bricks used internally, whether it's glazed bricks as kitchen splashbacks or as feature walls in media rooms, where they offer excellent acoustic protection. Polished concrete masonry used internally in this way looks incredibly luxurious."

Architects are using bricks to create distinctive homes in all sorts of fresh and innovative ways, from mixing different colours, shapes and finishes in a single application to arranging them in an open-and-closed latticework formation to create intriguing plays of light and shadow while boosting natural ventilation. They're also creating subtle patterns by laying bricks at different depths and orientations and running a single-coloured brick in various sizes and finishes from floor to ceiling.

"People are thinking beyond traditional stretcher bond (where every course of bricks is offset half a brick from the course above)," says Weller. "Virtually any pattern that tessellates is possible with bricks, including stack bond (where they're laid in horizontal or vertical columns), chevron bond, basket-weave bond and vertical zigzag – all of which will create an unexpected point of interest inside or out."

When it comes to brick shape, slim is definitely in, says Damian King, business development manager at Adbri Masonry. "We've seen a rise in demand for thinner bricks, as well as more textures. As a result, we have smooth, honed, split and shotblast textures, and a raft of different colours, including ebony, oatmeal and steel. With all the colours, textures and sizes on offer, architects can use brick to create just about any design imaginable." H&G

Photography by Will Horner (this page), Alicia Taylor (opposite top) and Peter Bennetts (bottom). Brick prices are indicative only as prices vary widely.

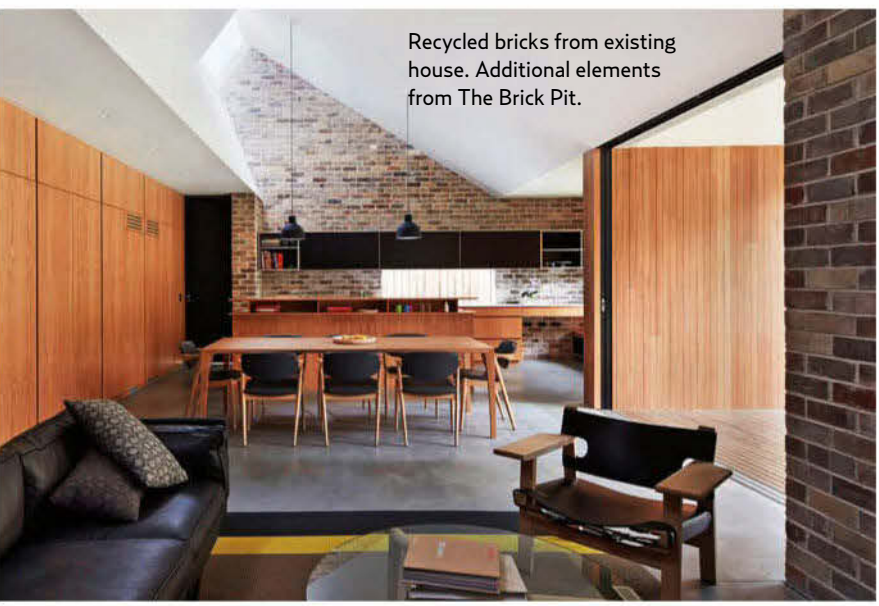


GB Smooth bricks in Porcelain, Austral Bricks.

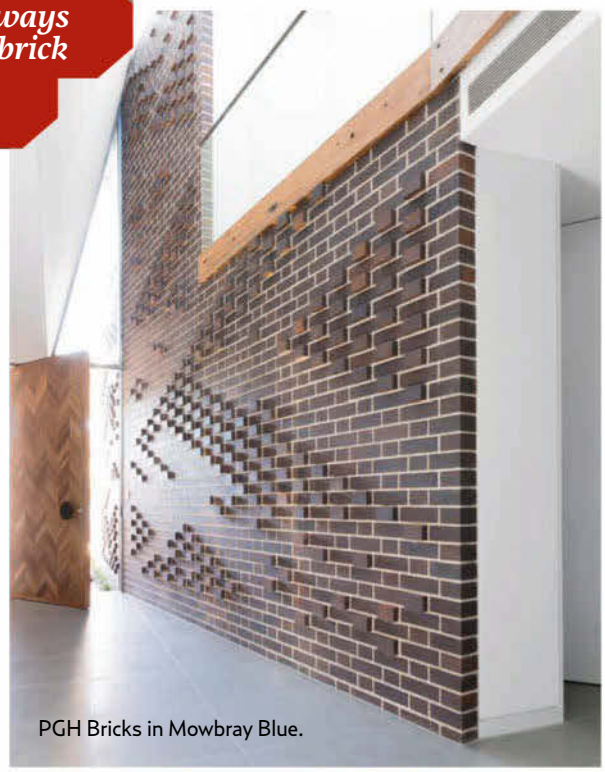
## *New ways with brick*

### MORTAR KNOW-HOW

Mortar represents about 15 per cent of the total visible area of brickwork, making it an important design decision. White is no longer the only option; take your pick from cream, charcoal and grey, or have it colour-matched to your bricks. "The colour and style of the mortar you choose makes a huge difference to the overall look and feel of the building," says Natalie Aliprandi of Brickworks Building Products. "The darker the mortar, the darker the overall appearance of the wall, and vice versa with lighter mortar. You can match the mortar to the brick colour to give the impression of one solid wall, or highlight the brick shape with mortar in a contrasting colour."



Recycled bricks from existing house. Additional elements from The Brick Pit.



PGH Bricks in Mowbray Blue.

3 WAYS TO

# CREATE AN OFFICE

***When we renovated our home I was working full-time. Now that I have children, I want to work part-time and turn our 4x1.7m windowless storeroom into a home office. How can I achieve this?*** *Mary Jackson, via email*



1 The key is to be clever with storage. Go for a slimline desk or trestle table, and some drawers on casters that tuck under the desk and roll out. Make the room comfortable; if it's not, you won't want to work there. Buy a great chair that you'll love sitting in. No windows? Good lighting is a must, perhaps a light with a flexible arm. Buy desk organisers and don't let clutter take over. A pinboard above the desk can be used for photos and notes. **Sarah-Jane Pyke**

2 I suggest you arrange some cupboards, shelves and a desk on the long side of the room, or a long bench with mobile drawer units below it and wall-mounted cupboards above. The children can do their homework at one end of the room while you're working at the other end. You'll need to consider the building code requirements for light and ventilation; these elements will also add to your enjoyment and health. If you can't install a window in the room, a ventilated skylight could be an option. **Tim Stewart**

3 First, see if changes can be made to bring in a view and fresh air. I suggest a 4m wall of mirror with the joinery opposite, a door at one end and a window at the other; alternatively, you could have the window within the mirrored wall or above your desk. The joinery should include a 300x70cm desk (open underneath for mobile drawers), 30cm-deep shelving over the top, and a full-height cupboard at the far end for storage. Install practical lighting and apply magnetic paint above the desk to create a pinboard. **Caecilia Potter** H&G

## THE PANEL



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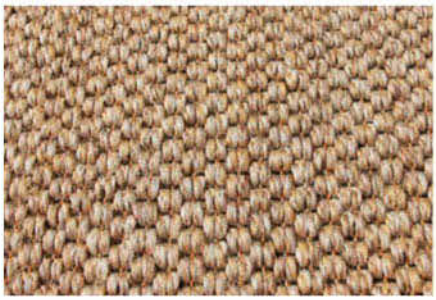


Everyone deserves a little time out, so when you get a rare moment to relax, make it count.

For the full story on Kate's beautiful bathroom and the inspiration behind it, visit reece.com.au/moments



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# H&G ESSENTIALS

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***Choices Flooring*** There's no better feeling than sinking your feet into a wool carpet, which is why Australians love Windsor Wool. **choicesflooring.com.au**



***Ned's*** You can add a truly personal touch to your decor with Fillable Jar Lamps. Fill them with a shell collection, photos, succulents or even Lego. **neds.net.au**




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HOW TO SHOP FOR

# PICTURE FRAMES

Focus on the art you want to display and the choice of frame will follow, says specialist framer **Patrick Holmes.**

**THE RIGHT FRAME...** is one that doesn't dominate the artwork. If you notice the frame first, it's too strong. The art always comes first: the frame is there to protect, to present and to complement.

**STARTING POINT** First, think about the nature of the artwork itself. Are there archival considerations? Canvas artworks, works on paper and photographs need different methods of framing for conservation purposes and longevity.

**MOUNTING POSSIBILITIES** The 'float mount and box' is what we do most. This is where the artwork sits on a backing in a deep frame, with the glazing placed away from the artwork to allow airspace. This allows the artwork to shine. In a traditional window mount, the artwork is overlaid with mounting card. This gives support along all four edges and keeps the glass away from the artwork. For photography, we recommend dry mounting; the artwork is mounted on a substrate to keep it flat and protected, and we also use a box frame so the glazing sits away from the work. For works on canvas, we use a timber shadow box frame that sits proud of the sides of the work, providing air space all around. In these cases, we don't use glazing.

**BALANCING ACT** Whichever frame and mounting you choose, it needs to be in proportion to the art it's displaying. A small work surrounded by a large mounting board doesn't do the artwork justice.

**TREND REPORT** Frames in natural timbers such as American oak are popular because they complement works without overpowering them.

**PERFECT MATCH** Frames should generally suit the period of the work they're framing. Traditional frames work best for antique and traditional works. An ornate traditional frame can be painted white for a more contemporary look.

**FOR CONTEMPORARY AND INDIGENOUS ART** Keep the frame very simple. Pale timber works with everything and looks especially good with indigenous art.

**FOR BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY** A pale timber box frame works well. If you want a black frame, we recommend a black-stained frame that hints at the timber beneath to add warmth and richness.

**FOR CHILDREN'S ART** This looks best in simple box frames. Use removable backs so the artwork can be changed.

**BOX OF TRICKS** To make a frame 'disappear', we'll use a box frame sprayed white to match the colour of the walls.

**INTERIOR MOTIVES** The frame should be matched to the art first, the decor second. Mixing styles of frames within one room can also look great. H&G

**Patrick Holmes is director of FX Art+Framing, Alexandria, NSW; (02) 9319 5996 or www.fxart.com.au.**

Text by Elizabeth Wilson. Photograph by John Paul Urizar.

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DPH&G4-15

*the finer things*

# on the record



They were superseded by digital formats, but old-school vinyl recordings are currently enjoying a surge in popularity, writes **Leo Schofield.**

First came wax cylinders, complete with snap, crackle and pop effects. Soon afterwards came gramophone records in heavy Bakelite, replaced after World War II by lightweight vinyl. Which is itself now consigned to history, you'd think. Well, not quite...

Vinyl records were hard work. Magnets for dust, they invariably needed cleaning before playing. An accidentally dropped arm could result in a scratch that often rendered the LP unplayable. Then there was the storage challenge, neatly solved by the smaller CD. But vinyl has always had its fans, especially among DJs, who find their tracks easier to find on large-format discs. Furthermore, audiophiles claim that analogue sound captured on vinyl is more 'authentic' than that the cleaned-up sound of a CD.

New figures released by the Australian Record Industry Association show the local vinyl record market jumped from $2.8 million to $6.4 million in one year. Hobart's Stefan Markovitch does a brisk trade in second-hand vinyl LPs. Music without Frontiers, his funky little shop in Collins Street, is a place of pilgrimage for vinyl aficionados. He stores and displays bulky old LPs with their square cardboard slipcovers like savvy musos the world over – in humble milk crates. It's a perfect fit.



Photograph from Getty Images (records).

## *Timing is everything*

Few hosts can resist a gift of flowers, but there is one occasion when a bouquet may be less than welcome – on arrival at a dinner party. When you're flat out labouring in the kitchen and seeing to the needs of guests, you probably don't want to take time out to hunt down a suitable vase and arrange cut flowers. A simple solution for the guest is to send the flowers ahead. The recipient can arrange them at leisure and will no doubt be extra appreciative of the thoughtful gift.

### SHEET SURRENDER

Can there be a more sensual experience than slipping between linen sheets? Okay, fine cotton is pretty good too, but real linen is something else. Of course, it's not cheap. A set of quality linen sheets and pillowcases costs upwards of $300, but since we spend so much time in bed, why not make it as enjoyable as possible?

### GOLDEN MEMORIES

The centenary of Gallipoli is proving a catalyst for much debate and reflection on national identity. This interest in our past is having a knock-on effect even in niche areas such as collecting, resulting in a renewed interest in the artefacts of our ancestors. One unique manifestation of Australia's past is 'goldfields' jewellery. When goldminers made a lucky strike and turned up a sizeable nugget, they often celebrated the find by having a piece of jewellery fashioned from some of the precious metal. Often the jewellery took the form of a brooch comprising a cluster of tiny picks, shovels, ropes, winches and other tools associated with the mining trade. More sophisticated examples copied fashionable Victorian designs such as the leafy brooch below, with its quirky centrepiece: a chunky lump of gold-bearing quartz. **H&G**



**THUMBS UP** ...and pinkies crooked. Now that coffee consumption has reached its apogee in Australia, it's time to consider an occasional alternative in the form of an old-fashioned cup of tea. Today's tea drinker is spoiled for choice. This writer is partial to a blend called Marco Polo from legendary French masters Mariage Frères. The business was founded in 1854, so it knows a thing or two about tea.

PROPERTY

# OFF THE RADAR



Negotiating an off-market home sale is a matter of weighing up risk and opportunity – for both buyers and sellers, writes **Harvey Grennan.**



SOMETIMES AN OWNER DOES NOT WANT THE STRESS OF AN AUCTION OR ITS SUBSTANTIAL MARKETING COSTS.

Recently I called an agent to find out what a property I owned would be worth and was taken aback by his appraisal. I thought he was over-quoting to secure the listing, so I called his bluff... or so I thought.

"If you can get that price I'll sell, but I don't want it advertised," I told him. "Just offer it to your database of clients," I said. A week later he rang to say he had a buyer on the first inspection. He'd achieved what is called an 'off-market' sale. I was snookered.

I then began my quest for a replacement property and saw a sign on the place next door to one in which I was interested. "Sold off market," it proclaimed. Another agent rang to offer a private viewing of an off-market property. Clearly this has become commonplace.

So, in what circumstances does an off-market or 'silent' sale occur? Well-heeled vendors may choose this approach because of a desire for privacy. Sometimes an owner does not want the stress of an auction or its substantial marketing costs. Or they need a quick sale because they've bought another property. Perhaps the sale has been triggered by a traumatic event, such as bankruptcy or divorce.

In other cases, it may begin with a knock on the door: a buyer will ask, directly or through an agent, whether the owner is prepared to sell. Developers often use this approach to consolidate sites for higher-density development.

Sometimes an off-market offering is just a pre-auction manoeuvre while styling, photography and advertising are being organised. Or it's a property that failed to sell and the vendor and agent don't want another marketing campaign.

Some buyer's agents promise exclusive access to off-market sales through their network of selling agents. But Melbourne buyer's agent Richard Wakelin says the allure of such privileged access is overstated.

"That might be the case for exceptional properties, or one that has an exemplary track record as an investment," he says. "But you don't need to be an economics professor to know that selling off market will make it difficult to maximise the final price. Throttling the supply of potential buyers from the whole of the market down to a few parties or just one is, well, courageous. It would only be rational if the agent is confident they can identify and engage those who value the property highly." H&G

### GIVE AND TAKE

A buyer may pay too much in an off-market sale and a seller may take too little. Both parties should seek independent advice as to the real market value of the property before starting negotiations. A buyer can then decide on their best offer, and the seller can assess the lowest price they will accept.

Illustration by Domenic Bahmann.

PETS

# LOYAL SUBJECTS



**Lively and affectionate, staffordshire bull terriers have become a family favourite, writes Roger Crosthwaite.**

Certain types of dogs acquire fierce reputations, often at odds with the true nature of the breed. A case in point is the English staffordshire bull terrier. My first close relationship with a staffie, a new arrival in my street, wasn't without some initial trepidation. But now that the two of us are well acquainted, I'll say this: never has a friendlier or more easygoing dog licked the back of my leg while I'm getting the shopping out of the car.

And watching her interact with other dogs on the street – wag, sniff, nuzzle, in that order – is never anything short of a lesson in canine warmth and hospitality. Dogs like that are welcome in the neighbourhood any time.

So, what's all the fuss about staffies? They are often confused with similar breeds such as bull terriers, American pit bulls and American staffordshire terriers, themselves often interbred to create a confusing web of crossbreeds. But the English staffie is its own dog. Recognised as a breed by the UK's Kennel Club in 1935, it was originally a fighting dog but made the transition to companion animal due to its exuberant, loyal and affectionate nature. According to the Australian National Kennel Council's registration figures for 2013, staffies are now second only to labradors in popularity.

A family dog if ever there was one, a staffordshire terrier is happiest when at the centre of the action and won't do well if left alone for long periods. These are busy, energetic dogs that need to be kept entertained.

"We've got little kids and staffies are great with them," say breeders Darren and Regina Hillier, of Dazregstaffords in Penrith, NSW. "As for exercise, we're lucky that we have a big backyard, so ours can tire himself out running around in circles. They are always on the go."

They are easy to house-train, and their short, dense coats shed very little, so they adapt well to the indoors. Their natural friendliness with strangers makes them generally unsuitable as guard dogs.

Where the owner will have to put in the hard yards is getting their staffie pup to mingle with other dogs, in order to avoid issues of mistrust and aggression later on. "If you get them down to the park early on and socialise them with lots of other dogs, they'll be fine," say the Hillers. Oh, and be alert when out on the street. Staffies have notoriously poor road sense, so they always need to be on a leash when out near traffic. **H&G**

### BREED ALL ABOUT IT

English staffordshire bull terriers are powerfully built, nuggetty dogs, weighing up to 17kg. They live for about 12 years. Pups cost from $900 to $1300. If you feel up to helping rehouse an abandoned adult staffie, get in touch with www.staffyrescue.org.au, based in north-western Sydney.

Illustration by Allison Langton.





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RENOVATOR'S NOTEBOOK

# HEAVEN & EARTH

With its bright new interiors and easy, flowing spaces, this revamped Sydney home finally sees the light.

STORY **ELIZABETH WILSON** / PHOTOGRAPHY **SIMON WOOD**



## AT A GLANCE

**Who lives here** Rebecca Elworthy and her husband, Greg, with their three children: Tom, seven; Hannah, five; and Jono, two.
**Renovation timeline** 18 months.
**Architect** Joshua Mulders, director of Joshua Mulders Architects, Annandale, NSW; (02) 9660 6235 or www.jmarchitects.net.au.
**Builder** Michael Marchione, Rescom Projects; www.rescomprojects.com.au.
**Size of home pre-renovation** 237m²
**Size of home post-renovation** 287m²


BEFORE


Rebecca requested a concrete island bench in the kitchen. "I love the balance of warm and cool materials, such as concrete with timber," she says. Glazed tiles, copper pendant lights and leather chairs round out a finely balanced palette. Cabinets in Porter's Paints Grigio (three-quarter strength).

Most renovations are designed to minimise sightlines to neighbours' places but when Rebecca and Greg drew up plans to renovate their home in Sydney's inner west, they were keen to capture views of the adjacent property. "The beautiful, historical sandstone church next door was part of the appeal when we bought our house, and we wanted to enjoy it," says Rebecca.

Architect Joshua Mulders, whose practice is just across the road from the home, fully appreciated his clients' sentiment and, in response, created a design with a deep connection to the heritage-listed 1889 beauty. His plans included strategic placement of windows to frame views of the church.

The four-bedroom Federation home had plenty going for it, including a relatively deep backyard for the area (the land is 570m²) and good bones in the original parts of the home. Set on a sloping block, it presented as a single storey at the front, then split into two levels with a "very basic subterranean rumpus room at the back", says Mulders. "The front facade and bedrooms were in good condition, but the rear consisted of a series of older additions that didn't have heritage value and weren't structurally sound, and there wasn't a great connection between upstairs and down."

Rebecca and Greg's brief was precise. "We wanted five bedrooms, two bathrooms, an open-plan kitchen/dining/living area and a separate family room," says Rebecca. They also wished for better indoor-outdoor connections and a lap pool.

Mulders has delivered on all counts, reconfiguring the home while making the most of its existing footprint. There are four spacious bedrooms upstairs and one downstairs. The kitchen and living areas have been relocated to the lower level, linking to a rear entertaining space and the backyard.

Central to the brief was the call for natural and tactile materials within a warm, earthy palette. Mulders has used oversized timber posts salvaged from an old wharf in the downstairs living area, in tandem with elements such as wide oak floorboards, honed concrete, handmade tiles and natural stone, to produce a medley of complementary tones throughout.


A
B
D
C

## A *Entrance*

The hallway needed treatment for rising damp but, after being rendered and repainted, it looks like new. Walls in Resene Tea.

## B *Dining area*

A huge, 3x2.4m, floor-to-ceiling fixed window is positioned at one end of the dining table, providing a full view of the rear garden and pool.

## C *Living area*

Once the musty rumpus room, this is now a light-filled living space. "It's a successful family home with a balance of parents' and children's zones," says Mulders. "The spaces feel welcoming due to the great light quality and views." The staircase features vertical timber strips that extend upward to become the balustrade on the upper level, forging a subtle link between upstairs and down.

## D *Hannah's room*

This charming bedroom is in the original front section of the house, where remedial work consisted of resanding floors and fresh paint.

## *Backyard* (below)

The lap pool and courtyard make full use of the deep, sloping site.

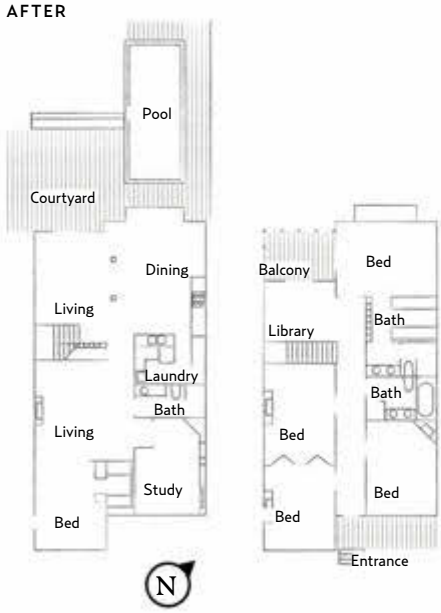
***Rebecca is the owner of decorating firms Flock Studio and Chantico Design; www.flockstudio.com.au, www.chantico.com.au.***



BEFORE




AFTER




## *Rebecca's tips for other renovators about to take the plunge:*

- Live in the property before renovating to really understand what it is you love or don't love about the space. Living in a house for at least a year will ensure you understand where the family gravitates to at different times of the day and different months of the year. This will inform your floor plans and material choices.
- Have an independent builder look at your development application before you submit plans to council, to give you their ballpark cost for the build. Once you submit a DA you're committed to those plans and it's hard to make amendments.
- If you can manage it, move out during the construction phase. Being in the home can hold up the process; moving off-site allows the builders to get on with the job.
- It's a big help if your architect and builder have worked together before. That way, they can bring their collective experience to the project, and you don't need to manage their relationship.

H&G

## THE BUDGET

| | |
|---|---|
| Demolition, excavation and concrete | $86,900 |
| Brickwork, plaster and rendering | $53,900 |
| Steel, roofing, insulation and louvres | $53,900 |
| Carpentry and timber | $166,100 |
| Kitchen joinery and benchtop | $36,300 |
| Electrical | $19,800 |
| Plumbing | $36,300 |
| Tiling and paving | $44,000 |
| Pool | $55,000 |
| General building work, appliances and fittings | $154,000 |
| Architect | $73,700 |
| Engineer | $6930 |
| Surveyor | $1320 |
| **TOTAL** | **$788,150** |

Artwokrs by Barbie Kjar (B), Ali Lamu (C,D). All costings are approximate.


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turn to page 209.




# SHOPPING

SHOP THE ROOM / 9 BY DESIGN / BUYER'S GUIDE

Styling by Kayla Gex. Photograph by Will Horner.

*50 fab buys under $150*

# AUTUMN ALLURE

There's a chill in the air and no time like the present to cosy up your home with these cool-weather buys.

STYLING **KAYLA GEX** / PHOTOGRAPHY **WILL HORNER**

**ON WALL clockwise from top left** Paros rattan **tray,** $84, Pottery Barn. Peacock rattan **wall decor,** $119, The Family Love Tree. Rosalind Yiparti grass, textile and feathers **Tjanpi basket,** $90, Koskela. Kastanjenöt water-hyacinth **bowl,** $13, Ikea. Betty Chimney grass, textile and feathers **Tjanpi basket,** $55, Koskela. Talia buri **basket,** $20, Freedom. Chain Link metal **bowl,** $75, Freedom. **FOREGROUND from left** Vagabond metal **chair** with woven seat, $149, Provincial Home Living. Buco water-hyacinth **ottoman,** $80, Freedom. Flowers from Poho Flowers. Background painted Endure in Lizzy Green, $40/L, Taubmans (throughout). FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

Stylist's assistant Sarah Maloney. Jense wool throw, $199, Country Road. Vintage books, $225/stack, Elements I Love.




**$13 /** Choccy Powder organic **cacao powder,** $13/each, Mercibouquet.



**$95 /** Pull + Push Products Cottage concrete **incense burner,** Mr Sparrow.



**$39 /** Corkway cork and ceramic **salt and pepper shaker set,** The Modern Furniture Store.



**$50 /** Indigo Love Into The Woods stainless-steel **salad servers,** Few and Far.



**$55, $50 /** Asta cotton-linen **cushion** (top), $55, and Poppy polyester-linen **cushion,** $50, Madras Link.



**$150 /** Chevron birch-ply **modular shelves,** $150/unit, Nomi.



**$100 /** Amalfi Abby metal and wood **table lamp** with cotton shade, Coco & Crème Living.



**$55 /** Henley Brands waxed-canvas **dopp kit,** Hunting For George.



**$16 /** Icon ceramic **soap dishes,** $16/each, West Elm.




**$49 /** Paddywax Library **fragrance diffuser,** Faded Empire.



**$26, $13 /** Premium horsehair **brush,** $26, and galvanised-iron **dustpan** with beech handle, $13, Heaven in Earth.



**$110 /** Le Creuset Heritage Stoneware **covered casserole dish,** Williams-Sonoma.



**$50 /** Antoinette **dinner candles,** $50/pair, Elements I Love.




**$8, $55 /** Chai **marshmallows,** $8/pack of six, Black Pantry. Shino stoneware **plates,** $55/each, Sarah Schembri Ceramics.



**$134 /** Cloud7 organic cotton **travel canine beds,** $134/each, Lavish Tails.



**$26 /** Zinc **flower bucket,** Armchair Collective.



**$65 /** Tipi Triangle stoneware and ceramic **mugs,** $65/each, Takeawei.



**$149 /** Lexon Mini Dolmen bamboo **AM/FM radio,** Vincent2.

Vintage Indian timber typesetter's tray, $179, Faded Empire. For Where to Buy, see page 208.




**$15 /** Masters Pastel set of 24 **chalk pastels,** Typo.



**$25 /** Zinc **tray,** Lark.




**$35 /** 4 High faux-leather **storage drawers,** Officeworks.

**IN TRAY clockwise from top** Ginger Tonic **soap,** $7, and Charcoal **soap,** $7, Dindi Naturals. Vintage **bingo dice,** $22/set of six, Faded Empire. Luggage Tag metal **drawer pulls,** $15/each, The Society Inc. Esselte steel **drawing pins,** $3.85/pack of 100, and Vintage Map **arrow labels,** $5/pack of 20, Officeworks. **Washi tape,** $3.95/roll, Little Paper Lane. Chalk **pastels,** $15/set of 24, Typo. **Baker's twine** in Lemon, $9/100m, Little Paper Lane. Yorkey ceramic spools with **jute twine,** $19/each, Domayne.





**$45 /** Bedouin Societé Moroccan Tile Turkish cotton-linen **hand towels,** $45/each, Manyara Home.



**$140, $20 /** Otto and Spike The McFadyen wool picnic blanket, $140, Hostile Bacon. Anne wire and glass candleholders, $20/each, Provincial Home Living.




**$40 /** Noble handcrafted **maple syrup** in Tonic 01 and Tonic 02, $40/each, The Black Truffle.



**$21 /** Dickens **notebooks,** $21/each, Domayne.



**$10, $5 /** Wool and leather **tablet sleeves,** $10 (10in), and $5 (8in), Officeworks.



**$75 /** Billy Wolf Milly waterproof **dog's jacket,** House of Hounds.



**$66, $25 /** Modern Mosaic **print** (41x31cm), $66, I Need Nice Things. Ribba fibreboard **frame,** $25, Ikea.



**$31 /** Cyclone steel **leaf and lawn rake** with hardwood handle, Bunnings.



**$140 /** Cultiver Turkish cotton **bathrobe,** Manyara Home.



**$69 /** Lövbacken beech **side table** with poplar veneer top, Ikea.



**$49-$79 /** Angus & Celeste Maidenhair Fern porcelain **bottle,** $49, Billy Buttons **vase,** $79, Yellow Leaf **bottle,** $49, and Banksia Petit **vase,** $69, Koskela.

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For Where to Buy, see page 208.


Rapee presents...
AUTUMN
/WINTER '15
From left to right. DAMASKA olive and black 50cm woven cushion.
DUCK multi 40cm x 60cm printed cushion. HAMISH olive 45cm
jacquard cushion. NAMIBIA black 50cm jacquard cushion.
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SHOP THE ROOM

# CAPE COD COOL

## This Victorian beach house has crisp Cape Cod style pegged. Here's how to do it.

Timeless and fuss-free is the air conjured up in this sunny living room – in an elegant holiday home on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula. With white-painted ceiling trusses overhead, the home's architecture established the tone of an American beach house, a look interior designer Diane Bergeron knows intimately. She set about blending texture and pattern, from the floor up, beginning with the crisp stripes of the Dash & Albert rug. The slip-covered linen sofa, cushions and blind in China Seas Aga Reverse, were all custom-designed by Diane. An iconic butterfly chair keeps it casual. "We used a lot of different materials to give it that depth, says Diane, who was born and raised in the US. "I used a few cane pieces, some vintage French finds, lots of comfortable furniture and washed linens. I like to mix it up a bit."

**Diane Bergeron Interiors, Collingwood, Victoria; (03) 9015 7227 or www.dianebergeron.com.**




*Image by Lisa Cohen. Styling Gabriel Jacka.*








### IN THE NAVY

It takes its name from the uniforms of the Royal Navy, and paired with crisp white, is the foundation of a classic nautical scheme. Graphic pattern takes this hue into elegant and sophisticated territory. Sharp in its darker depths and warmer in its lighter moments, navy is a home decorator's firm friend.



## ANCHOR IT

Natural fibres are the key to a seaside interior. Anchor the room with a classic-shaped sofa in fresh white linen and invest in slip-covers for peace of mind. A cotton rug with handmade cred has raw, breezy appeal.

## FINISHING TOUCHES













## *Design classic*

***Lightweight and oh-so comfortable, the Butterfly chair has casual chic covered. Originally designed in 1938 by Argentinian architect Jorge Ferrari-Hardoy, this dark canvas interpretation with leather trim gives the iconic shape trans-seasonal appeal.***



**IN THE NAVY** **from left** Zinc cotton **cushion,** $41, Kush Living. Brita Sweden Gunnel lambswool **blanket,** $330, Habitat Home Collection. Mornington linen **cushion,** $37, Kush Living. **ANCHOR IT** Hudson **three-seater sofa** with linen-viscose-cotton upholstery, $2350, Orson & Blake. Mud Print cotton **rug** (2.4x1.7m), $295, Weylandts. **FINISHING TOUCHES** **clockwise from top left** Mackenzie wool **throw** in Mustard (1.4x4.9m), about $351, Coast New Zealand. Harley bone china **teacup and saucer,** $25, Cranmore Home. Natural seagrass **basket,** $50, The Design Hunter. Ombre glass **table lamp,** $150, Amalfi. *Just a Glimpse* oil on linen **painting** (30x30cm), $440, Ali Wood. Drum rattan **stool,** $239, Bowerhouse. **DESIGN CLASSIC** Soho canvas and leather **butterfly chair,** $595, Coco Republic. FOR WHERE TO BUY, SEE PAGE 208.

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Produced by Ashley Pratt. Currency conversion correct at time of printing. Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.


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9 BY DESIGN

# THROWS




**CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT** Provincial mohair **throw** (122x183cm), $128, Provincial Home Living; www.provincialhomeliving.com.au. Henrika acrylic **throw** (120x180cm) in Lilac, $35, Ikea; www.ikea.com.au. Fringed linen **throw** (163x220cm), $299, Safari Living; www.safariliving.com. Bemboka angora and merino **blanket** (220x240cm) in Mocca, $749, The Design Hunter; thedesignhuntershop.com. Ash Green/Sage cashmere and wool **throw** (150x180cm), $158, Linen & Moore; www.linenmoore.com.au. Antigua linen waffle **throw** (180x140cm) in Mustard, about $227, Coast New Zealand; www.coastnewzealand.com. Lodix linen **throw** (160x200cm), $239, Citta Design; www.cittadesign.com. Mae Engelgeer Nerv alpaca and wool **blanket** (160x195cm) in Black and White, $699, The Minimalist; www.theminimalist.com.au. Alpaca **blanket** in Checkers (200x235cm), $439, Jardan; www.jardan.com.au. Reine leather handle **basket**, $69, Freedom; www.freedom.com.au. Branches from Poho Flowers. Nature Boy timber and linen **armchair** in Ash, $1180, MCM House; www.mcmhouse.com. Taubmans Endure interior acrylic paint in Cloudberry, $40/L, Taubmans; www.taubmans.com.au. H&G

Styling by Ashley Pratt. Stylist's assistant Sarah Maloney. Photograph by Will Horner. Currency conversion correct at time of printing.

9 BY DESIGN

# WALL CLOCKS




**1 /** Wood Loop wood and glass **wall clock,** $100, Zanui; 1300 668 317 or www.zanui.com.au. **2 /** Different Facets gilt **wall clock,** $142, Down That Little Lane; www.downthatlittlelane.com.au. **3 /** Flower iron **wall clock** in Black, $199, BoConcept; (02) 9437 0066 or www.boconcept.com.au. **4 /** Vattna plastic **wall clock,** $15, Ikea; (02) 8020 6641 or www.ikea.com.au. **5 /** Concentric Flora porcelain **wall clock** in Green, $109, Angus & Celeste; (03) 9752 4004 or www.angusandceleste.com. **6 /** Drop of Oak oak **wall clock,** $122, Down That Little Lane. **7 /** Leff Amsterdam Felt 35 recycled PET felt **wall clock** in Orange Hands, $25, Until; (02) 9119 8700 or www.until.com.au. **8 /** Watch Me powder-coated aluminium **wall clock** in Pink, about $63, Normann Copenhagen; www.normann-copenhagen.com. **9 /** Casablanca engineered wood **wall clock** in Black, $149, Freedom; 1300 135 588 or www.freedom.com.au.

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Produced by Lauren Barakat. Currency conversion correct at time of printing.

# BRUNCH TIME

Set up a pretty Easter table for two with the Australian House & Garden range, exclusive to Myer.



**FROM LEFT /** Sorrento cotton **napkins,** $20/set of four. Gibson etched-glass **stemless wineglasses,** $10/each. Sorrento earthenware **cereal bowl** in Grey, $13. Sorrento earthenware **dessert plate** in White, $13. Sorrento earthenware **dinner plate** in Mint, $15. Sorrento cotton **tablecloth** (150x250cm), $50. Flowers, Poho Flowers. White chocolate bunny, Lindt. Australian House & Garden, available from Myer; 1800 811 611 or www.myer.com.au.

Styling by Ashley Pratt. Photograph by Will Horner.

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BUYER'S GUIDE

# SAUCEPANS

## Invest in good-quality cookware and you'll reap the benefits every day, writes **Georgia Madden.**

Cooking can be a pleasure when you've got the right equipment – and a downright headache when you don't. So if your sauces are sticking and your soup keeps bubbling over, it might be time to consider an upgrade.

Top-quality cookware can come with a hefty price tag, but it's an investment worth making, says Lisa Higginbottom, lead brand manager at Meyer Cookware Australia. "Your $10 pan might seem to do the job, but you would be surprised at how much better food tastes, and how much easier it is to cook and clean up afterwards, if you have great cookware."

Cookware has undergone a serious style makeover in recent years. A quick browse of any kitchenware specialist or department store will reveal a bevy of bold paintbox hues to help brighten even the plainest of kitchens, as well as ranges in sophisticated chocolate browns and charcoals that will perfectly complement your timber cabinetry.

There are also snazzy multi-functional styles, such as Eva Solo's three-in-one Gravity pans that boast an integrated colander, standing lid and steam vent and, of course, a raft of classic stainless steel, copper and cast-iron designs. ▸




Eva Solo stainless-steel Gravity Pot, $226, Top3 by Design; 1300 867 333 or www.top3.com.au.

## CARE GUIDE

To keep your saucepans in great shape, Suzanne Murphy, chief marketing executive at Meyer Cookware Australia, recommends that you:

- Read the care instructions that come with your cookware and register the product with the manufacturer so you can easily claim on the warranty.
- Check pans for dishwasher safety, oven-safe temperatures, and whether it's safe to use metal utensils.
- Avoid overheating cookware. For non-stick pans, start on high for one to two minutes and then turn down to medium.
- Never use knives or cut food in your cookware.
- Wash your cookware thoroughly with a brush or non-stick cleaning pad after each use. With non-stick pans, it might seem that the food just wipes out but, without thorough cleaning, the oils and fats will build up and burn onto the non-stick surface over time.
- To remove baked-on food, bring a little vinegar to the boil in the pan before washing.

◂ Looks aside, the right cookware needs to perform well, says Jennene Plummer, food director at Bauer Food Studio. "It should be strong and durable, offer good heat retention, prevent hot spots, feature heatproof handles, and it should work on all heating surfaces. It needs to be dishwasher safe, stackable, and have cooktop-to-oven capabilities. She says a tempered glass lid is a bonus as you can monitor the progress of your cooking without lifting it. A steam vent is also important as it allows excess steam to escape so your pan won't bubble over.

A decent, average-sized saucepan costs $70-$130, says Melissa Hansen, cookware buyer at Peter's of Kensington. The key to avoiding an expensive mistake, advises Higginbottom, is to consider your needs carefully. "What do you really want – hassle-free convenience or non-stick? The look and performance of stainless steel? Also consider your budget, what you cook, and whether you want a matching set or to introduce a touch of colour to your kitchen."

Another important consideration is heating type. If you have an induction cooktop, which works by producing a magnetic field above the glass surface, you'll need induction-safe cookware, which has a metal base that can be magnetised (look for the induction-compatible symbol on the pan's base).

There are several different cookware materials to choose from, each suited to different cooking styles. Stainless steel, often featuring a thick aluminium or copper base, is very durable, suitable for all heat sources, metal-utensil safe and easy to clean, plus it won't rust, chip or break. Quality 18/10 stainless-steel pans are expensive but last a lifetime.

Hard-anodised pans have a smooth, scratch-resistant surface that's twice as hard as stainless steel. It's durable and offers great heat conduction and retention – perfect for keeping rice warm. Not all styles are suitable for induction. Cost-wise, they're similar to stainless steel.

Non-stick cookware is great for low-fat cooking as you need little or no oil to stop food sticking, plus it's affordable and easy to clean. On the downside, it scratches, won't brown meat as well as metal, and isn't always induction-compatible. Some non-stick coatings also contain perfluorooctanoic acids (PFOAs), which do not break down in the environment and can persist for a long time, accumulating to levels that could be harmful. If this is a concern for you, seek out some of the newer, non-stick PFOA-free cookware, such as Scanpan's Green Tek and the GreenPan range.

If you're looking for pans that are great for slow cooking, cast-iron may be your best choice. Cast iron absorbs and retains heat to keep food hot. It's also tough, long-lasting, and suitable for all cooktop types. Enamel-coated styles are rust-resistant and easier to clean and maintain than traditional cast iron. Bear in mind, however, that cast iron is heavy and its traditional look might not be best suited contemporary kitchens.

If you want stunning, heirloom-quality pans and budget isn't a concern, consider copper. "It's also one of the best conductors of heat, which is why it's a favourite with chefs," says David Ley, spokesperson for Copper Kitchen. "Heat spreads quickly and evenly throughout the pan, and cools quickly when the stove is turned down, giving unparalleled temperature control." Sadly, copper isn't induction-cooktop compatible.

"At the end of the day, cookware is something you use daily and should last for years, so do your research and buy the best you can afford," says Plummer. ▸

### *Cookware shopping list*

Melissa Hansen, cookware buyer at Peter's of Kensington, lists the basic pieces you'll need to cover most cooking requirements:

- 1x 16cm saucepan
- 1x 20cm saucepan with steamer insert to fit
- 1x 26cm/5-6L cast-iron casserole pot
- 1x 7L or 1x 9L stockpot
- 2x frypans (one large, one small)
- 1x 26cm cast-iron griddle
- 1x 32-36cm wok

## STAINLESS STEEL




### KAREN MARTINI BY RACO 20CM/3.3L SAUCEPAN, $55

With its bright red accents, this design is sure to give your kitchen a lift. A straining pan, it features twin spouts so you can pour liquids with ease. Suitable for all cooktops, it's also oven safe to 200˚C.
Raco; 1800 351 565 or www.raco.com.au.



### AXIS 18CM/2.5L SAUCEPAN, $195

This stylish design encases a copper core to prevent hot spots. It also features a domed glass lid for easy viewing and secure, riveted handles. There's an internal measuring guide and it's induction-cooktop safe.
Scanpan; 1800 808 971 or www.scanpan.com.au.



### EVA SOLO 20CM/4L GRAVITY POT IN GREY, $226

Featuring an ingenious all-in-one lid that acts as an integrated colander, standing lid and built-in steam vent, this pot is also stackable and boasts a PFOA-free, non-stick cooking surface.
Top3 By Design; 1300 867 333 or www.top3.com.au.



### SIGNATURE 3-PLY 20CM SAUCEPAN, $360

With a gleaming, mirror-polished finish, this artisan-crafted saucepan has a three-layer construction to distribute heat evenly. It's induction-cooktop friendly and oven safe to 260˚C – with a lifetime warranty.
Le Creuset; 1300 767 993 or www.lecreuset.com.au.

## HARD ANODISED & NON-STICK



### GREENPAN STOCKHOLM 24CM/5L CASSEROLE DISH, $115

With its hard-anodised exterior and forged base for perfect heat conduction, this is designed for long-term performance. It is suitable for all cooktops and has an easy-to-clean Thermolon coating.
Harvey Norman; 1300 464 278 or www.harveynorman.com.au.



### SYMMETRY 20CM/3.8L SAUCEPAN, $180

Constructed from ultra-durable, hard-anodised aluminium and featuring the brand's signature non-stick circle system and PFOA-free coating, this saucepan is also stain- and chip-resistant.
Circulon; www.circulon.com.au.



### RESERVE COLLECTION 24CM/9L STOCKPOT, $220

This French-designed hard-anodised pot combines looks and performance. It has a non-stick PFOA-free surface and tempered-glass lid. Suitable for induction cooktops and oven safe to 260˚C.
Tefal; www.tefal.com.au.



### ENDURANCE 20CM/3.8L SAUCEPAN, $220

Perfectly sized for a family batch of rice or vegetables, this hard-anodised pan has a raft of practical features. It has exceptional heat-conduction and is induction-cooktop and dishwasher friendly.
Anolon; www.anolon.com.au.

cut out and keep.

# H&G SHOPPING

## COPPER



### ESSTEELE PER VITA 24CM/5.5L STOCKPOT, $220

Designed to last a lifetime, this stockpot has a high-quality stainless-steel body and solid copper base for optimal heat conduction. It's suitable for all cooktops and oven safe up to 240°C.
David Jones; 133 357 or www.davidjones.com.au.



### ESCOFFIER 24CM/7L STOCKPOT, $249

A copper body, stainless-steel lining and aluminium base make for even heat distribution, plus it has sealed edges and ergonomic handles. While dishwasher safe, handwashing is recommended.
Chasseur; 1800 808 971 or www.chasseur.com.au.



### MAUVIEL 12CM/0.8L SAUCEPAN, $257

Made in France and polished by hand, this saucepan has a sleek, pared-back look that will endure from this generation to the next. It has a stainless-steel lining and is oven safe but handwash only.
Phillip & Lea; (03) 9011 8433 or www.phillipandlea.com.au.



### RUFFONI SYMPHONIA CUPRA 24CM/4L BRASIER, $690

This heirloom-quality piece is made from hammered copper and lined with stainless steel. With riveted handles, it provides exceptional heat control and is oven safe to 200°C. Unsuitable for induction cooktops.
Ruffoni; (03) 9761 5655.

## COLOUR




### KASTRULL 14CM/1.5L ENAMELLED-STEEL SAUCEPAN, $20

Cheap and cheerful, this enamelled-steel saucepan will add a touch of retro chic to your kitchen. Featuring a stylish beech handle, it's suitable for all cooktops, including induction. Handwash only.
Ikea; (02) 8020 6641 or www.ikea.com.au.



### CHEF TOPF 18CM/2L CERAMIC SAUCEPAN IN LEMON, $60

In a unique rosebud-inspired design, this pan will bring a smile to your face every time you cook. It has a PFOA-free, non-stick, ceramic cooking surface and is dishwasher safe but not suitable for the oven.
Zanui; 1300 668 317 or www.zanui.com.au.



### RACO CERAMIC 24CM/2.8L SAUTÉ PAN IN GREEN, $100

Add some fun to your kitchen and enjoy healthy cooking at the same time. This aluminium pan has a PFOA-free ceramic interior that cooks quickly at high temperatures to seal in flavour and nutrition.
David Jones; 133 357 or www.davidjones.com.au.



### SILIT PASSION COLOURS 16CM/1.3L PAN IN ENERGY RED, $131

A German-made saucepan with a durable ceramic exterior and quality steel core. The cooking surface is also made from ultra-hard, anti-bacterial ceramic, and it's safe for induction cooktops.
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***Open house*** See more of the O'Sullivan family's exquisitely renovated Edwardian cottage in Melbourne, page 82.
***Let's eat!*** For extra recipes from chef Andrew McConnell, see page 142, plus save two dishes from Matt Moran's new cookbook, page 211.
***Ask away*** Send in your queries! Interiors expert Rose-Marie Hillier will solve your decorating dilemmas, page 169.

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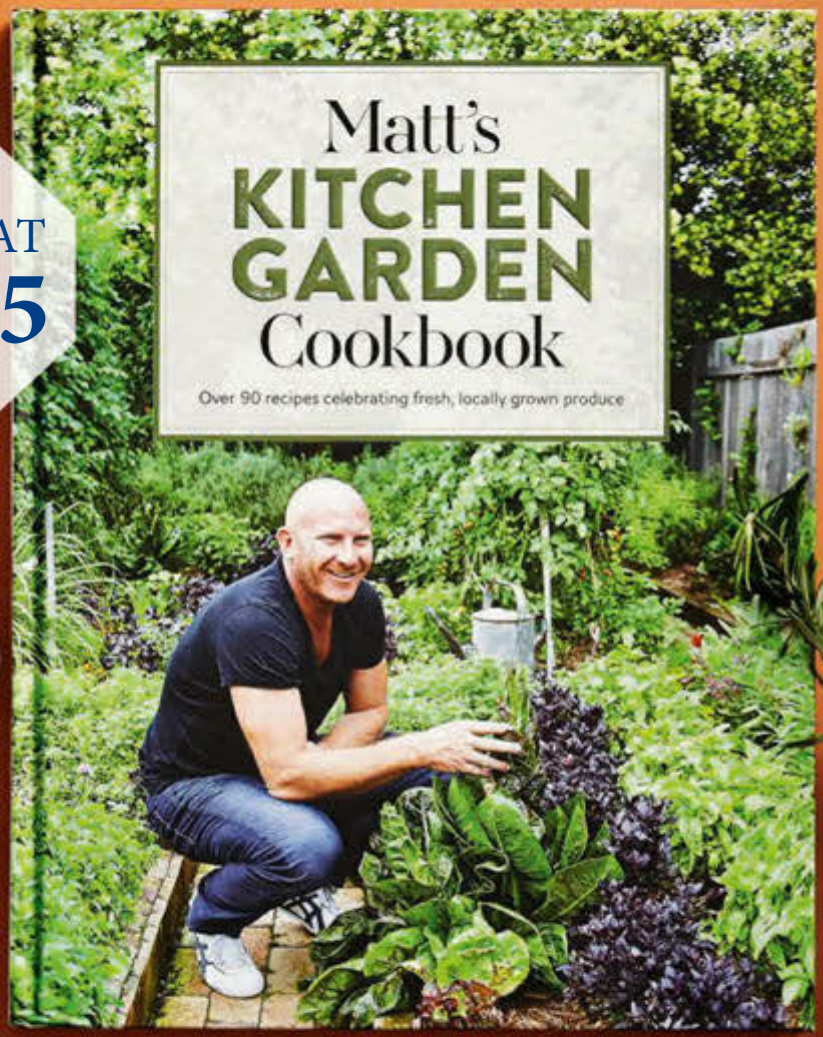
Styling by Ashley Pratt. Photograph by Will Horner.

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Acclaimed chef Matt Moran is renowned for his passion for local produce. His new book, *Matt's Kitchen Garden Cookbook*, is filled with mouthwatering recipes inspired by his 'local', the market garden at his Sydney restaurant, Chiswick. Prime your palate with the pickled vegetables and dukkah or seared kingfish with radish, avocado and wasabi, then tuck into slow-cooked lamb with hummus, tomato salad and mint salsa. When it's time for something sweet, the berries and meringue with passionfruit curd will be a sure-fire winner.

***Hurry, offer ends April 5!***

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AUSTRALIAN HOUSE & GARDEN

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### *On our cover*

A clever downsizer has upgraded this inner-Melbourne home to gain indoor-outdoor flow and a glorious new sense of light and space. Photographed by Nicole England. To see more, turn to page 16.




### *Get in touch*

Your feedback is important to us, so please let us know what you think of our magazine. Call (02) 9282 8456, send an email to h&g@bauer-media.com.au, post a letter to *Australian House & Garden,* GPO Box 4088, Sydney, NSW 1028 or go to www.houseandgarden.com.au.

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# YOUR *H&G*

*I have nothing but admiration for Judy and Robert Henry, who restored their bushfire-ravaged Kinglake property to the lush green paradise shown in your February issue. I'm particularly pleased to see the large gum trees have been retained. My property also has many native trees and shrubs, providing a habitat for local wildlife and a personal oasis for me. I wish Judy and Robert many years of happiness in their lovely garden.*
Christina Hartley, Verrierdale, Queensland

## *Greatly appreciated*

As I read each issue of *H&G*, looking at fabulous layouts of the inside and outside of people's homes, my reaction is sometimes envy, sometimes pure admiration. But on reading the latest issue, I appreciated what I actually have and realise how much I enjoy my home. It's my own *H&G* feature, a paradise created out of years of subscribing to your magazine.
*Pamela Smyth, Hamilton, NSW*

## *Homes away from home*

As an Aussie expat living in Dubai, I look forward to *H&G* every month. The articles, references and architectural styles are so uniquely Australian and help me feel connected to home. I particularly love the Houses section, as we plan to renovate our Queenslander when we return. It's so inspiring and interesting to see how other Aussies renovate. No wonder there are so many bookmarked pages in my issues!
*Danielle McGuckin, Dubai, United Arab Emirates*

## *Potted colour*

As an avid renovator, I've been subscribing to *H&G* for a few years now and find myself continually inspired by your magazine. 'Top Of The Pots' (January) gave me some great ideas for the garden. I now have a pot brimming with a fuchsia dwarf bougainvillea, bringing a splash of colour to a corner of our garden where it was much needed.
*Kate Petersen, Applecross, WA*

## *Monthly memories*

It was with joy and some sorrow that I received my March *H&G*. You see, this was the last issue of a subscription my dear dad sent me as a gift just before he passed away last year. Apart from being a fantastic magazine, each issue has reminded me of his thoughtfulness. From now on I shall be organising my own subscription, but it will always bring back memories of my father, and I'll look forward to each month's magazine with particular fondness.
*Caroline Scarman, Wamberal, NSW*

Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Illustration by Allison Langton.



## FLOWER OF THE MONTH

### FLANDERS POPPY

The Flanders poppy (*Papaver rhoeas*) is recognisable as the flower of remembrance.
**Colour** Vivid red.
**Shape** Large cupped flowers with a single row of red petals and a black centre.
**Look for** Strong, straight stems with upward-facing buds just about to open. "Poppies will only open in sunlight and they last longest when seared at the base of the stem with a naked flame then plunged straight into fresh water," says Jai Winnell, creative director of Hermetica Flowers in Sydney's Darlinghurst.
**Best displayed** "I love mixing poppies with sweet peas in harmonious tones. Arrange them simply in a cylinder vase or en masse in anything crystal cut," says Jai.
**Hermetica Flowers; (02) 9380 4725 or www.hermeticaflowers.com.au. See Jai's arrangements on our Pinterest page in April.**

## WRITE IN TO WIN

***The author of every letter published receives $50. Our favourite also wins a fabulous prize.***
This month Christina Hartley wins a Kooper floor lamp, valued at $299, from Beacon Lighting; www.beaconlighting.com.au. Email your letter to h&g@bauer-media.com.au with your full name and address or post to Your *H&G*, PO Box 4088, Sydney, NSW 1028.



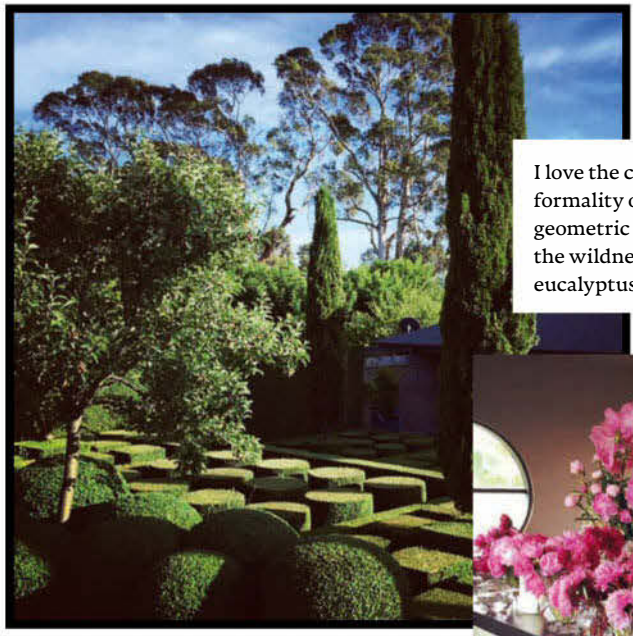
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*my insta life*

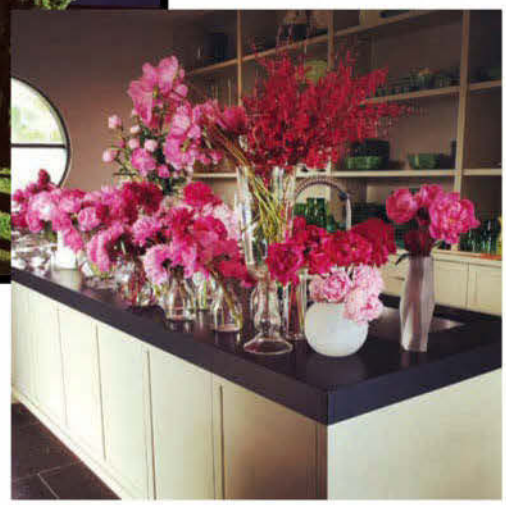
# PAUL BANGAY



***Landscape designer***
***@paulbangay***

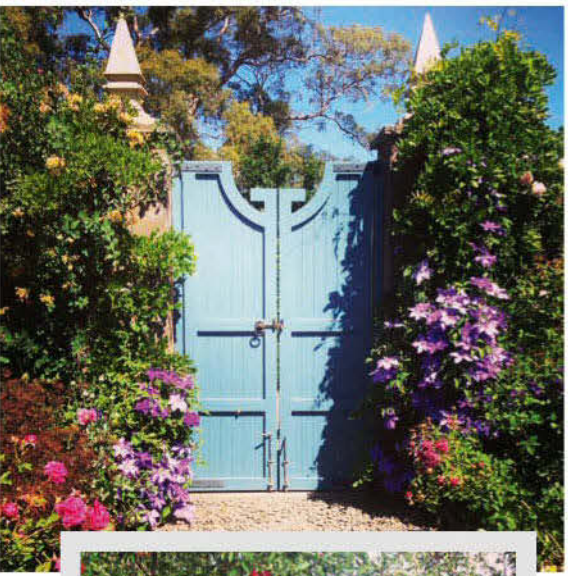


I love the contrast between the formality of my neatly clipped geometric *Buxus* shapes and the wildness of the outer eucalyptus trees. #stonefields



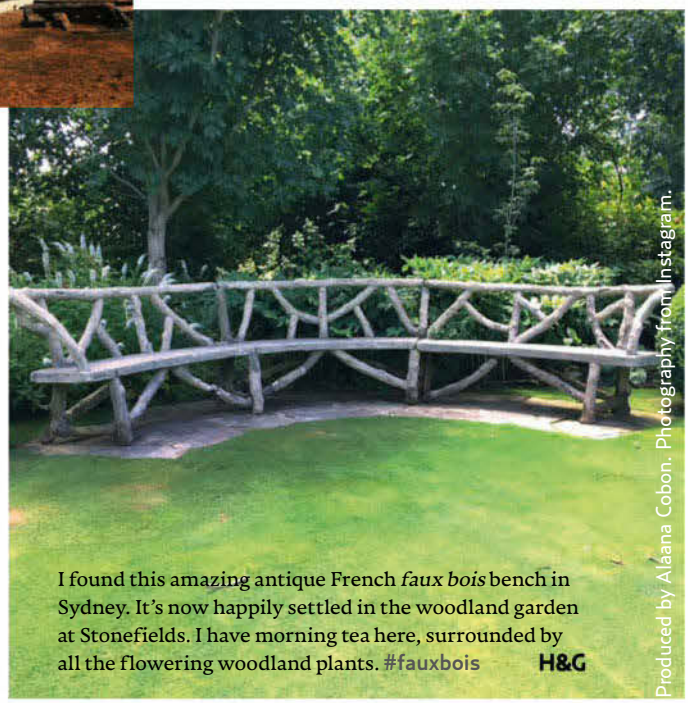
One of the priorities when building my house was to have a flower room. I use it extensively. Flowers are off-loaded here straight from the car and usually arranged the next day. #blooms

My signature shade of blue adorns the timber gates to my rose garden. #paulbangayblue





After years of dreaming about the Mughal Gardens of India, it was so exciting to see this floating garden in Jaipur. #floatinggarden



I found this amazing antique French *faux bois* bench in Sydney. It's now happily settled in the woodland garden at Stonefields. I have morning tea here, surrounded by all the flowering woodland plants. #fauxbois H&G

Produced by Alaana Cobon. Photography from Instagram.



The Crimson Crisp apples are having a bountiful year in the apple walk at our property, Stonefields. #stonefieldsbounty



Wandering through Marrakesh is exhausting! To find respite at the rooftop Nomad restaurant is bliss. #abovethechaos

# NEXT MONTH

## *May*

+ Romantic decorating
+ Simmone Logue bakes for us!
+ Celebrating women in design

*Inspiration lives here...*

*On sale April 6*



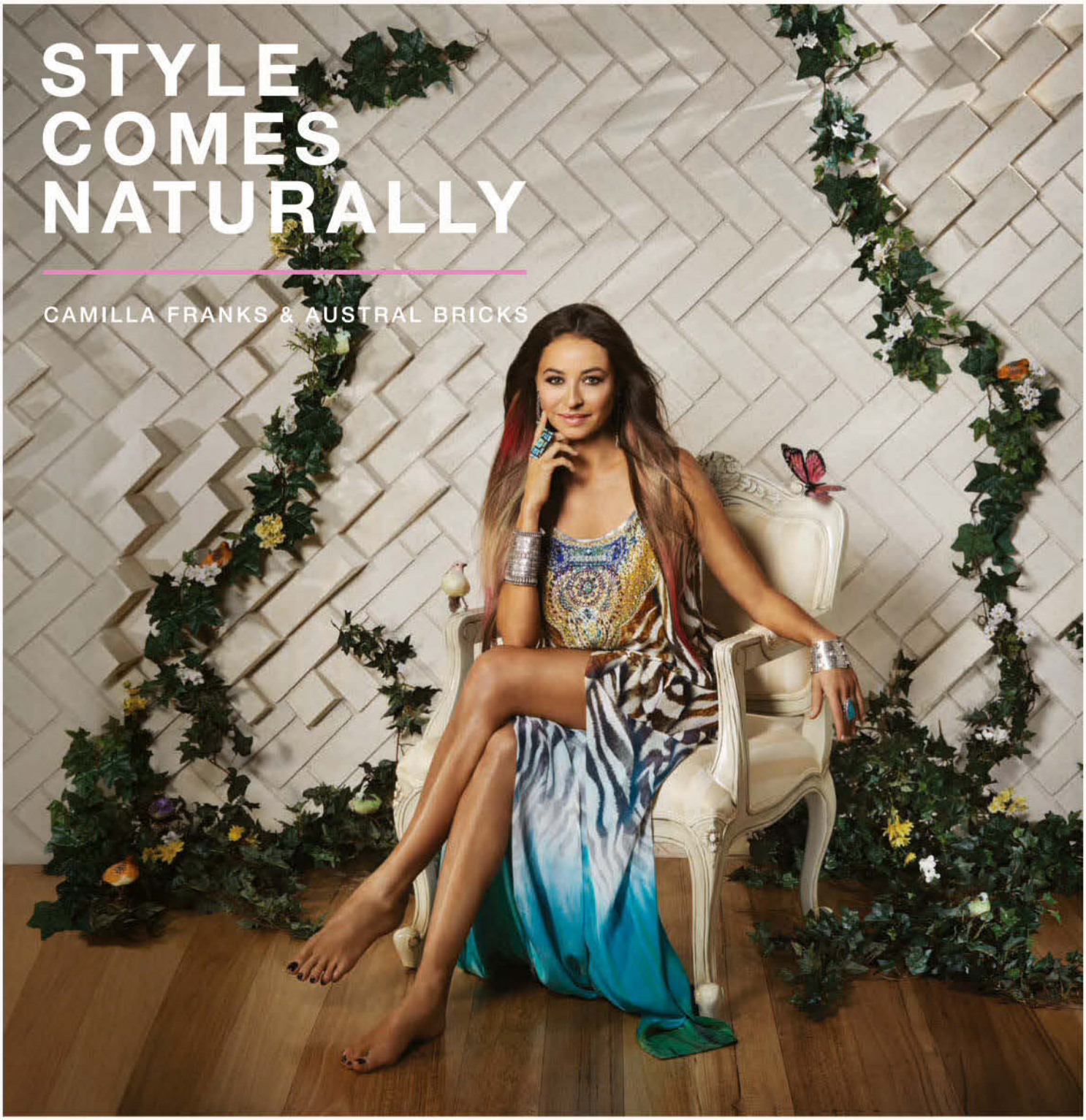
Styling by Kayla Gex. Photograph by Will Horner.

AUSTRALIAN HOUSE & GARDEN




1 / Mozi Dash ceramic **planter** (22x14cm) with rope hanger, $60, Lark; www.larkstore.com.au. 2 / Wood cylindrical table **lamp,** $130, Zanui; 1300 668 317 or www.zanui.com.au. 3 / Louise Roe Architect **cushion** (50x50cm) in Kvadrat wool fabric in Emerald/Blush, $159, Norsu Interiors; www.norsu.com.au. 4 / Etoile single lambswool **blanket**, $180, Country Road; 1800 801 911 or www.countryroad.com.au. 5 / Marmo Lucienne Big Bead polymer clay and leather **necklace,** $82, Emily Green; www.emilygreen.net. 6 / Fritz Hansen Drop **chair** in Pink, from $510, Cult; www.cultdesign.com.au. 7 / Marble **clock,** $100, Country Road. 8 / Silk rubber-coated ceramic **canister** with wooden lid in Neon Orange, $30, The Design Gift Shop; www.thedesigngiftshop.com. 9 / Berlin metal **stool** in Blush, $150, Madras Link; (03) 9490 0600 or www.madraslink.com. 10 / Green plastic **door knobs,** $8/each, H&M; 1800 828 002 or www.hm.com/au. H&G

Produced by Lauren Barakat.

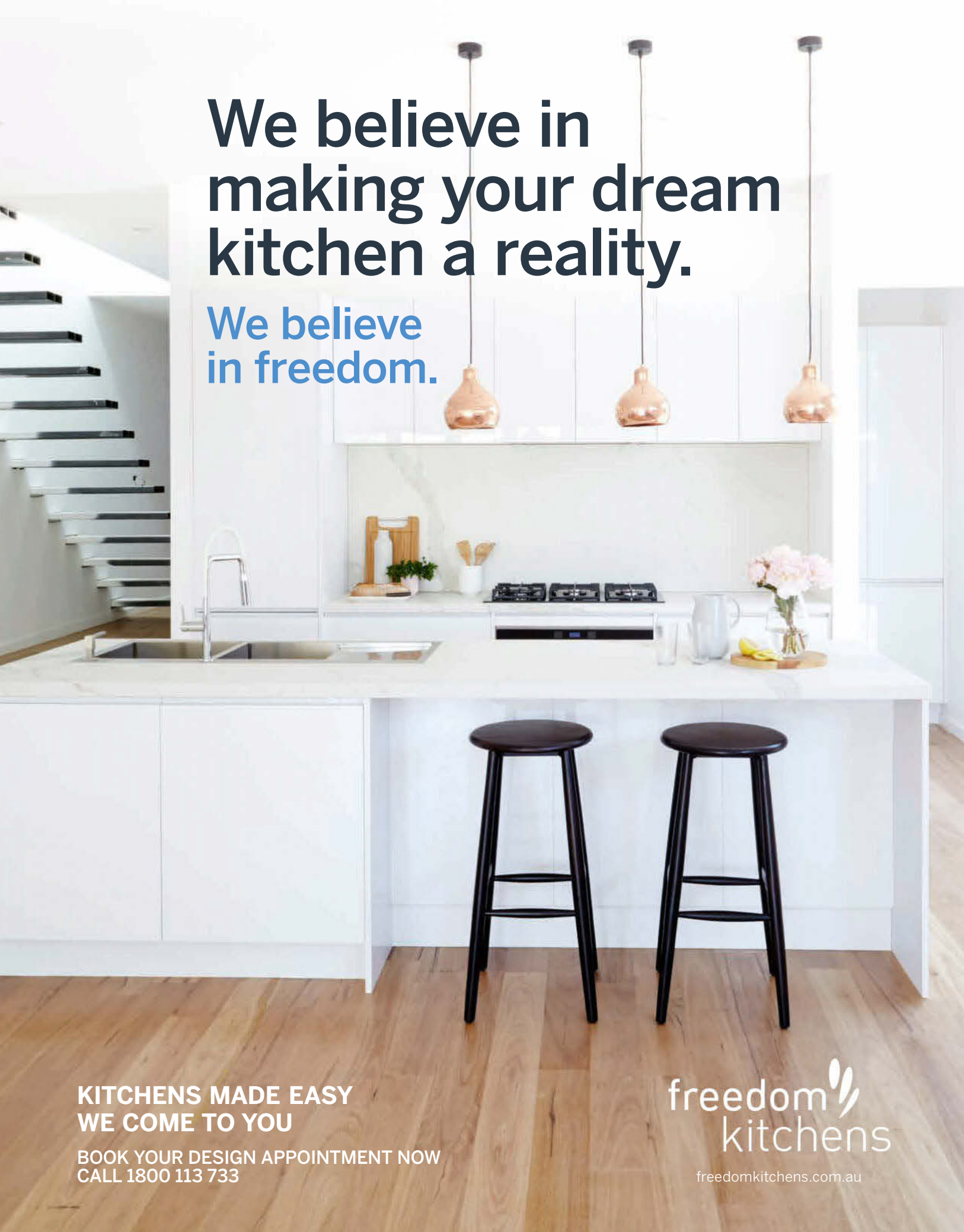



Top fashion designer Camilla Franks has built a reputation on creating clothes people just love to wear. As she says, "style is to be lived in, not just looked at." At Austral Bricks, that's something we believe in too and why everything we create starts with 100% natural materials.

And just like Camilla, we use them to create colours, textures and patterns you'll love to live in, and look at.

Whether it's the finest Indian cotton, or the very best Australian clay, when you start with the best materials, style and substance go together naturally. Find out more about Camilla Franks and Austral Bricks at mybrickstory.com.au

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